

M I D D L E E A S T A N D S O U T H A S I A R E V I E W

25 OCTOBER 1982

Iran-Iraq War

Islamic Mediation -- The delegation sent to Tehran and Baghdad on 23 October by the Good Offices Committee of the Islamic Conference Organization (ICO) made progress and the mediation mission will continue through further contacts with Iran and Iraq, a committee statement carried by SPA declared. However, Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i, who received the ICO delegation, announced afterward in an interview with Tehran radio that the proposals brought by the delegation "contained nothing new and raised points which Iran has previously rejected." He noted that Iran rejects the demand for a cease-fire unless its conditions are met and also stated that in contrast to the delegation's proposal that an Islamic fund pay war reparations, Iran insists on receiving compensation from Iraq. Asked his opinion of the mediation efforts, Khamene'i said the visits made by such delegations are inspired by the United States and the supporters of Iraq. None of the ICO delegation's proposals corresponds with Iran's conditions, he asserted, and the Iranians accordingly told the delegation they are unacceptable. Nevertheless, Khamene'i told the delegation he will reply to the Good Offices Committee's letter later, Iran's foreign minister disclosed in a Tehran radio interview. The ICO secretary general confirmed that the Good Offices Committee has not yet received Iran's official reply, WAKH reported.

During its visit to Baghdad the ICO delegation handed Revolution Command Council Vice Chairman 'Izzat Ibrahim a message for Iraqi President Saddam Husayn, INA reported. Ibrahim told the delegation that Iraq approves "in principle" the peace proposals contained in the message and called on the Good Offices Committee to state its "clear and frank opinion" regarding all the problems that have hindered it so that the Islamic world will know the role of the parties concerned in this issue.

Military Situation -- Exchanges of fire continued throughout the weekend, according to military communiques issued by both sides. Iraqi communiques carried by Baghdad radio and INA asserted that the Iranians lost 134 men killed or wounded in an abortive offensive in the central sector on 22 October and that Iraqi planes struck at targets in the southern sector the previous day. Meanwhile, Iranian Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani said in remarks reported by IRNA that as a result of Iran's recent offensive, the Iraqis sustained 4,000 men killed, wounded, captured or deserted and also lost 79 tanks and personnel carriers.

Iran

IRNA claimed that a strategic village and 14 other villages in Sanandaj, Kordestan Province, were purged of rebels and that several villages and heights which were important rallying points for the rebels were completely recaptured during two successful police operations on 23 October. The clandestine Free Voice of Iran radio denied that revolution guards have been able to capture the areas controlled by armed Kurdish fighters. The radio reported that 360 guards were annihilated, and that the guards' attacks along the Sar Dasht-Piranshahr road have been defeated.

Lebanon

Withdrawal of Foreign Forces -- Beirut radio cited reports that the first stage of withdrawals may occur before 22 November, allowing the Lebanese Army and the multinational force to deploy in an area extending from the Ad-Damur district south of Beirut through the Ash-Shuf and Al-Matin mountains to the environs of Juniyah in the north. The Israelis will move south of the Ad-Damur river while the Syrians and Palestinians will withdraw eastward from Al-Matin to the Al-Biqa' Valley, the radio said. In a related development, the clandestine Voice of Arab Lebanon radio cited reports that U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary for Near Eastern Affairs Morris Draper, who arrived in Lebanon on 24 October, has

brought with him a plan for mutual withdrawals. However, the Israeli Foreign Ministry spokesman reaffirmed that Israel does not make any deals with the PLO and reiterated that before any Israeli withdrawal takes place, the PLO men and other "terrorists" must leave all of Lebanon, Jerusalem radio reported. The spokesman was responding to the Lebanese paper AN-NAHAR's report that the Israelis will pull back 15 km from the Beirut-Damascus highway in exchange for a complete PLO withdrawal from Lebanon, according to the radio. Meanwhile, Jerusalem political sources cited by Israel's HA'ARETZ contended that the negotiations over the evacuation of foreign forces will be long and exhausting, lasting months, not weeks.

In another development, Beirut radio reported that in a message delivered to President Amin al-Jumayyil during his stay in Rome, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat declared the Palestinian Resistance is at the disposal of the Lebanese authorities and affirmed that the PLO will not impede the withdrawal process. An Arab source cited by the London magazine AL-MAJALLAH disclosed that Jordan has agreed "in principle" to receive a large number of Palestinian fighters currently deployed in northern Lebanon and the Al-Biqa' area. Meanwhile, the UAE paper AL-KHALIJ said that PLO forces in Tunisia will be transferred to Jordan and that King Husayn has agreed to allow 5,000 PLO soldiers to be stationed there, according to AFP.

Al-Jumayyil Remarks, Activities -- President al-Jumayyil told the Rome daily IL MESSAGGERO that the multinational force should be strengthened and that since the Lebanese Army is at present insufficient to maintain order, the government should introduce a military draft, ANSA reported. Before leaving Rome, Al-Jumayyil met with Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali, who told him that Egypt is prepared to participate in any effort aimed at securing peace in Lebanon, MENA reported. Al-Jumayyil gave 'Ali an important message for Egyptian President Husni Mubarak, MENA noted. President al-Jumayyil subsequently told the Lebanese Cabinet that he intends to visit certain Arab countries which are concerned with the Lebanese problem, Beirut radio said.

Phalangist Policy -- The Phalangist Lebanese Forces "cannot change the nature of their struggle until the legal authority regains all its sovereignty and imposes its authority over all the homeland's territory and all the foreigners get out," Lebanese Forces Commander Fadi Afram declared in a speech, excerpts of which were broadcast by Voice of Lebanon radio. Speaking in the Phalangist Security Council compound at a memorial service marking the 40th day after Bashir al-Jumayyil's assassination, Afram pledged to firmly abide by the late president-elect's principles and also vowed that the Lebanese Forces will continue their struggle to liberate all of Lebanon, the radio reported.

Security, Military Situation -- Violent clashes erupted in southern Lebanon between Maj Sa'd Haddad's "Free Lebanon" militias and Norwegian UNIFIL troops, the Voice of Arab Lebanon radio reported on 24 October. Firing broke out when Haddad's men established a roadblock in a UNIFIL-controlled township near Marj 'Uyun, the radio said, and the Norwegians declared a state of maximum emergency.

In the Ash-Shuf mountain villages, the Lebanese Army expanded its deployment over the weekend while the Israelis vacated some of their positions, Beirut radio reported. Voice of Lebanon radio spoke of noticeable progress in the security situation in the area on 23 October. Earlier, an Israeli soldier was injured in an ambush south of Beirut, according to Jerusalem radio.

Palestinian forces in Al-Biqa' and the north have been put on maximum alert, a Palestinian official announced on 23 October in a statement reported by QNA.

PLO

PNC Meeting -- SPA, citing the Saudi newspaper AL-JAZIRAH, reported on 23 October that PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat will chair a meeting of the leaders of all Palestinian groups in Tunis "in the next few days." A Palestinian source in Tunis told the paper that the Palestine National Council (PNC) meeting will be held in Tunis in the first week of November. The source stated that the meeting will formulate a draft plan to submit to the PNC on future Palestinian strategy and, after reviewing 'Arafat's talks with Jordan's King Husayn, will consider the possibility of gathering all Palestinian fighters in one Arab country. Earlier, PNC Chairman Khalid al-Fahum told the London-based newspaper ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT that circumstances are still "inappropriate" for establishing a Palestinian government-in-exile, MENA reported.

Military Council Meeting -- San'a' Voice of Palestine radio reported that PLO leader 'Arafat chaired a meeting of the Military Council of the Palestinian Revolution forces in Tunis on 23 October. The meeting, which was attended by military representatives from all Palestinian factions and the Palestine Liberation Army, discussed the military situation in the Al-Biqa' region and the reorganization of the Palestinian fighters, who are currently in a number of Arab states.

PLO Radio -- 'Azzam al-Ahmad, director of the PLO's Baghdad office, told the Amman daily AD-DUSTUR that the PLO central radio station will begin experimental transmissions from Baghdad from 1700 to 1800 GMT on 1 November. Al-Ahmad explained that the station will initially be beamed to the surrounding Arab region, but AD-DUSTUR reported that the PLO plans to build relay stations to enable broadcasts to reach North Africa as well as some European countries.

Egypt

Tabah Negotiations -- MENA reported that the Foreign Ministry committee entrusted with examining the differences between Egypt and Israel on the disputed Tabah region in south-west Sinai has prepared the studies and strategy through which Egypt will handle the Tabah issue in the future. The draft will be presented to Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali for approval. According to Cairo radio, 'Ali has sent messages to both U.S. Secretary of State Shultz and Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir on resuming the talks at the technical level in order to demarcate the borders at Tabah.

Sudan Integration Charter -- In a ceremony held in Al-'Arish on 23 October and attended by high-ranking officials from both Egypt and Sudan, President Mubarak and Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri signed the statutes for the three integration institutions: the Supreme Council, the Nile Valley Parliament and the Integration Fund, MENA reported. Mubarak and Numayri will chair the Supreme Council.

Libya

Libyan leader Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhafi left Tripoli on 23 October on a working visit to both the PRC and DPRK in response to official invitations from their leaders, JANA reported. AFP noted that the visit was prepared in "great secrecy" and coincides with China's expanding relations in the Middle East. The Libyan delegation stopped in Sofia, Bulgaria, and Irkutsk, Siberia, en route to the PRC.

Gulf Affairs

Oman-PDRY Conciliation Talks -- The conciliation talks between Oman and the PDRY which began on 23 October in Kuwait are being held in a "frank, optimistic atmosphere," according to QNA. The talks are being held at the urging of the GCC and under the sponsorship of Kuwait and the UAE with the aim of "discussing outstanding differences" and normalizing relations.

Oil Affairs -- Kuwaiti Oil Minister Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah as-Sabah told the Kuwaiti daily AL-ANBA that Kuwait has no plans to increase its oil production, KUNA reported. He said future activities will focus on exploration, development and refining. The minister affirmed that Kuwait will attend the next OPEC meeting in order to stay informed and that it is prepared to accept short-term sacrifices. In a related development, the Abu Dhabi offshore oil company ADMA has decided to reduce oil production by 50 percent to 250,000 barrels per day, according to WAKH.

FBIS**DAILY REPORT**
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KING HASSAN HOLDS NEWS CONFERENCE IN WASHINGTON

LD240242 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 23 Oct 82

[Text] His Majesty King Hassan II held a news conference in Washington today during which he explained the contacts made by the committee set up by the Arab Fes summit -- and led by his majesty the king -- to contact the permanent members of the UN Security Council. His Majesty King Hassan II also talked about the tasks of the committee set up by the Fes summit and the talks held by the committee yesterday with U.S. officials, as well as the Arab vision of a just peace in the Middle East. His majesty called for overcoming doubts and mistrust in order to thwart the [word indistinct] crisis prevailing in the region.

In answer to journalists' questions, his majesty talked about Jordan's role in establishing peace and Jordanian-Palestinian cooperation in this area.

U.S. media paid special attention to this conference. This was evident by the presence of journalists, photographers and correspondents of major newspapers. The presence of a large number of Arab journalists in Washington was also noted.

The press conference was attended by Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi, Tunisian Foreign Minister Beji Caid es-Sebsi, Jordanian Foreign Affairs Minister Marwan al-Qasim, as well as by Arab ambassadors to Washington, led by their doyen, the ambassador of the Sudan Democratic Republic. The conference was also attended by His Royal Highness Prince Mawlai Abdullah and the Moroccan delegation accompanying his majesty.

During the news conference his majesty the king reiterated the Fes summit resolutions, especially those pertaining to the Arab committee charged with the task of explaining these resolutions to the permanent members of the UN Security Council. His majesty the king stressed that the Fes resolutions enjoy the support and agreement of all the Arab countries that participated in the conference. His majesty said this is the first time in the history of the Arab League that there is agreement, solidarity and positive work.

During the news conference, his majesty said that any peace with Israel would have to comply with a number of conditions. His majesty indicated that the region has entered a new phase distinguished by [words indistinct].

His majesty the king explained the significance of the seventh clause of the principles of the Arab peace plan. His majesty said that this clause [word indistinct] by the Arab states in order to stop the dispute among the region's countries with guarantees from the UN Security Council. He added that moving the situation toward peace requires the withdrawal of Israel from Arab territories occupied in 1967.

His majesty the king explained that he is convinced that the U.S. administration is determined to achieve peace in the Middle East. His majesty the king said that our first objective is to achieve possible rapprochement between President Reagan's proposals and the Arab peace plan. He said there is hope that we will succeed. His majesty reiterated what had already been stated before coming to Washington, namely, that the Arab committee did not come to negotiate or sign any document.

Regarding Jordanian-Palestinian relations, his majesty the king stressed that King Husayn's and the PLO's joint move regarding the Middle East crisis is necessary. His majesty noted that the Palestinians did not wait for signs from any U.S. official to carry out talks with His Majesty King Husayn. The PLO carried out talks with the Jordanian monarch freely and spontaneously.

His majesty the king explained that the talks he held yesterday at the head of the Arab delegation -- whether with President Reagan or with Secretary of State Shultz or with Vice President Bush -- were carried out in an atmosphere of clarity. The talks were characterized by the will to reach a solution.

After the news conference, His Majesty King Hassan II held a reception in honor of Arab envoys in the United States.

'ARAFAT CRITICIZES U.S. STAND ON PALESTINIANS

LD230848 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0745 GMT 23 Oct 82

[Text] Riyadh, 23 Oct (SPA) -- PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has declared that American postures do not encourage one to say there is an American (?understanding), likely to provide good grounds for constructive dialogue for regaining Arab rights and recognizing the rights of the Palestinian people.

In a statement published today by 'UKAZ, 'Arafat expresses his belief about the unlikelihood of any change occurring in this posture. He described the general American posture on the Palestinian question as poor.

'Arafat once again accused the American administration of being responsible for everything that happened in Lebanon. He said that events have irrefutably exposed their responsibility for these events and their knowledge about the massacres committed against the Palestinian people.

'Arafat left Jidda last night for Tunis after taking part in the meetings of the Islamic Good Offices Committee.

AL-FAHUM MAKES STATEMENT TO ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT

LD222134 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1325 GMT 22 Oct 82

[Excerpts] Riyadh, 22 Oct (SPA) -- Khalid al-Fahum, chairman of the Palestine National Council [PNC], has praised the major and leading role being performed by the kingdom in support of the Palestinian cause.

In a statement published today by ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT, he said we entertain great respect for the Saudi leadership and we are very confident that it will continue to back the organization and the struggle of the Palestinian people. He stressed that the kingdom will not abandon the Palestinian people and its organization. He said that Saudi Arabia will continue to support our inalienable national right to return to our homeland, self-determination and the establishment of an independent state.

He hailed the major role played by the kingdom for the success of the Fes summit, and said that Saudi Arabia has been a very influential state in connection with the Arabs reaching agreement on the Arab peace plan and other plans. He described the Fes summit as the most successful of all Arab summit conferences.

Commenting on the work of the Arab seven-member committee, Al-Fahum stressed that the delegation, which is to visit the United States, speaks in the name of all Arabs; therefore, America's objection to the presence of the organization's representative in the committee must not be accepted, neither by this committee nor by the Fes summit.

He expressed his hope that all Arabs would do their best to achieve PLO participation in the committee since the Palestinian issue is the core of the Middle East question. It is meaningless that the United States listens daily to the Israeli point of view yet refuses to listen to the Palestinian point of view.

The PNC chairman explained that the stands of the European states, particularly England and France, are much better than that of the United States because they at least recognize that the Palestinians have the right to self-determination. He called on the European states to start working for comprehensive peace by means of an initiative, or whatever influence they have with the United States, in order to cause a change in the American stand on the Palestinian issue.

Referring to the initiative of President Ronald Reagan, he said it has some important positive aspects in that it concentrates on an Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories and from the West Bank, Gaza and Arab Jerusalem, and on halting the construction of new settlements and nonexpansion of the present settlements. However, it also contains some negative aspects, since it totally ignores the rights of the Palestinian people, such as their right to self-determination and their right to establish their own independent state.

Referring to PLO relations with Arab countries, Al-Fahum said that it wants to establish good relations with all Arab countries. He said we want our relations with Jordan, as with our relations with the rest of the brothers, to be good. He said that the results of the visit of Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, to Jordan were good. He said we consider that we ought to work for the establishment of constitutional unionist relations between Jordan and other Arab countries should they so desire. He stressed that the organizations's relations with Syria are strong and would remain so. He said our relations had been and continue to be good, and that all we hear to the contrary is mere exaggerated rumor.

He pointed out that the organization's relations with Lebanon are based on noninterference in the internal affairs of any country. He said we support unity in Lebanon, its stability and sovereignty, and we must all do our utmost to secure the withdrawal of the Zionist forces from Lebanese territory. He expressed his hope that unity and stability would prevail over Lebanon, so that in its turn it would play a distinguished role within the Arab community. He also welcomed the holding of direct contacts between the PLO and the Lebanese Government to discuss the future of the Palestinians in Lebanon out of our care, and questions related to the safety of Lebanon and its interests.

Al-Fahum explained that the 16th PNC session will be held within a month or half a month, and that it is considered very important session since it comes in the wake of the Beirut events. He said that its agenda will include questions on defining and discussing the organization's future political moves in the international arena, the unification of all Palestinian military forces, the strengthening of relations between detachments of Resistance movements within the framework of the PLO, the Arab peace plan accepted by the organization, other plans, and the consolidation of the steadfastness of the Palestinians in the occupied lands.

AL-MUSTAQBAL INTERVIEWS PLO INTELLIGENCE CHIEF

JN240915 Paris AL-MUSTAQBAL in Arabic 23 Oct 82 p 16

[From "Yesterday's News" column]

[Text] Abu az-Za'im, head of Palestinian military intelligence, paid a surprise and secret visit to Cairo during which he met with Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali; Dr Usamah al-Baz, director of President Husni Mubarak's office and other ranking Egyptian officials. He then went to Tunis to submit a report to PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat.

In an interview with AL-MUSTAQBAL, Abu az-Za'im spoke about the lessons learned from the fifth war in Lebanon. He stressed that the individual and determination are the basic factors for achieving victory and defining one's destiny. This war revealed the true nature of the Israeli soldier and shattered the myth of the invincibility of the Israeli army.

Commenting on the PLO's political and military status in the wake of the war, Abu az-Za'im said: The Israeli enemy completely failed to achieve its objective of liquidating the PLO on the military and political level. While it emerged stronger on the political level, the PLO has also acquired new positions on the military level and has succeeded in safeguarding its structure.

On the Arabs' stand and the possibility of a solution, Abu az-Za'im said: The unanimous Arab stand in Fes must be implemented. That's why a strategy of action toward a settlement must be formulated so that our resolutions do not remain just a piece of paper. In this respect, the seven-member committee formed by the Fes summit assumes huge and sensitive responsibilities and some major Arab countries such as Saudi Arabia and Egypt which have given their political, economic and moral weight, have a basic and effective role to play in giving momentum to the Arab action toward the Arab solution adopted in Fes.

On the purpose of his visit to Egypt at this time, Abu az-Za'im said: I do not want to discuss this in detail. However, we look forward with confidence and faith to the role of Egypt -- both its leaders and people -- in this delicate stage. President Husni Mubarak's decision to recall the Egyptian ambassador to Israel and the official Egyptian stands condemning the Israeli barbaric actions in Lebanon largely demonstrate that Egypt's political trend at the current stage differs completely from how some are trying to depict it. Egypt is trying to create a strategic balance in terms of arms, equipment and power with the Israeli enemy and it is our view that Egypt's role in confronting Israeli designs in the Arab region will be doubled and strengthened. Helping Egypt develop its stand toward the common Arab objectives dictates the resumption of Egypt's role, weight and effectiveness in its Arab nation.

We believe that unifying Arab ranks is a necessary and important thing and Egypt must continue to remain a basic factor in Arab ranks. Our nation has great confidence in Egypt will take up its natural place.

On the future of Palestinian-Jordanian relations in light of Yasir 'Arafat's recent talks with King Husayn, Abu az-Za'im said that 'Arafat spoke about special relations with Jordan. Our people are one whether they are on the West Bank, the East Bank or the Gaza Strip. They are bound together by social and historic links which cannot be separated. We in the Palestinian revolution are nationalists, patriots and unionists. However, we take care not to allow the Zionist enemy to exploit this brotherhood and unity to swallow up our people's right to the establishment of their independent national identity on their national soil of Palestine.

We welcome unionist measures which at the end guarantee the establishment of a confederation between two fraternal and independent countries which have the same people. I believe that important steps were taken or will be taken in the near future to serve these common and fateful objectives in the wake of the Amman summit between Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] and King Husayn.

COMMITTEE APPEALS TO UN ON UNRWA'S ACTIONS

JN231608 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 23 Oct 82

[Text] The General Committee of the Palestinian Refugee Camps and Groupings in Jordan has appealed to the UN secretary general and the president of the UN General Assembly to intervene, deter and prevail on UNRWA to continue all its services to the Palestinian refugees until a just solution to the Palestinian question is established and the Palestinian people regain their legitimate rights, including those of self-determination and return.

In a memo sent today to the president of the UN General Assembly and the UN secretary general, the General Committee of the Palestinian Refugee Camps and Groupings condemned the decision of the UNRWA commissioner general to stop the monthly food rations for the refugees. The memo said this unjust decision is another link in the chain of conspiracy against the Palestinian people and their just cause. The aims and dimensions of this decision are no less than the practices to which the refugees were recently exposed in Lebanon. This decision is also linked to and coincides with the barbaric Zionist onslaught which aims at displacing the Palestinian people, obliterating and liquidating their cause as well as exerting all sorts of psychological pressures so that these people will give in to the unjust plans.

In its memo, the General Committee of the Palestinian Refugee Camps and Groupings denounced the UNRWA stand and said: It is regrettable that UNRWA devotes itself to serving evil aims and renders itself a subservient tool in the hands of the enemies of the Palestinian people and their just cause. The memo adds: UNRWA's action to stop the refugees' food rations was carried out despite their dire need for these rations and despite its continuation since the tragedy of the Palestinian people and until now as a commitment on the part of the international community toward these people who were evicted from their homeland and made homeless contrary to all heavenly and earthly laws.

We believe this commitment represents a noble initiative expressing the awakening of the international conscience and its rejection of injustice and aggression, but the decision to stop UNRWA's aid affirms that this aid was a means to gain time until our enemy becomes strong enough to impose all its wishes by force and that it was not a humanitarian act aimed at helping the oppressed.

The General Committee of the Palestinian Refugee Camps and Groupings appealed to the international community and the United Nations to deter UNRWA, revoke its decision and prevail on it to continue to extend all its services so that the refugees will not lose their confidence in the justice of the United Nations.

AL-KHALIJ ON RELOCATION OF PALESTINIAN FIGHTERS

GF241358 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0900 Gmt 24 Oct 82

[Text] Ash-Shariqah, 24 Oct (WAKH) -- An official Palestinian source stated that the plan to reassemble the Palestinian forces in a number of Arab capitals is currently being discussed by the Palestinian leadership.

The UAE-based AL-KHALID daily attributed to the source, who was described as high-level, that the plan is to remove the Palestinian fighters who are currently in Tunis to Jordan to join the Badr forces and that is after Jordanian King Husayn agreed to the presence of 5,000 Palestinian fighters in his country. The source affirmed the necessity to transfer the Palestinian fighters in Tunis to their original headquarters in Egypt and the forces found in Southern Yemen to join the forces present in the YAR.

The paper also attributed to well-informed sources in Jordan that Khalil al-Wazir, alias Abu Jihad, deputy general commander of the Palestinian Revolution forces, will permanently reside in Jordan and the Jordanian Government and the PLO have made arrangements for this residence in addition to that of a number of Palestinian leaders in Jordan.

PLO COMMANDER DENIES REPORTS ON PDRY CAMP

GF231706 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 23 Oct 82

[Excerpt] Abu al-'Abd, commander of the Palestinian Revolution forces in Aden, has stressed that the presence of the Palestinian fighters in the PDRY is a temporary presence in one of the Revolution's bases. He indicated that these forces have not been made desperate by any fabrications or campaigns by some false hired and agent pens which are no more than dummies [words indistinct]. In an interview with the 14 OCTOBER newspaper yesterday, he called on whomever writes through his conscience and not through the dollar to come and visit the Palestinian Revolution forces' camp in Aden to see the situation. Abu al-'Abd said the camp's location is [word indistinct] and surrounded with trees and water wells.

VOP TO BEGIN TRANSMISSION FROM BAGHDAD 1 NOV

JN240838 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 24 Oct 82 pp 1, 19

[Text] Amman, AD-DUSTUR -- The PLO central radio station will begin experimental transmission from Baghdad for 1 hour daily on 1 November.

'Azzam al-Ahmad, director of the Baghdad PLO office, has stated that this temporary transmission can be heard between 1900-2000 Jordan local time [1700-1800 GMT]. He added that in the next few weeks this main radio station of the Palestinian Revolution will transmit for several hours daily and is expected to increase transmission time to a least 8 hours daily at a later date.

Al-Ahmad explained that the PLO radio station will broadcast from Baghdad in Arabic, English and Hebrew and that its transmissions will reach all the Arab region surrounding occupied Palestine in addition to the occupied territories. Al-Ahmad emphasized that the latter was the main objective, because we want to be in daily and continued contact with the kinfolk in the occupied homeland.

AD-DUSTUR has also learned that the PLO will build relay stations to enable the radio will reach North Africa and some European and Middle Eastern countries.

KUWAITOMANI, PDYR DELEGATIONS MEET TO SETTLE DISPUTE

Shaykh Sabah Comments

LD232006 Kuwait KUNA in English 1600 GMT 23 Oct 82

[Text] Kuwait, Oct 23 (KUNA) -- The foreign ministers of South Yemen and Oman will meet here next Monday to discuss bilateral relations and to settle outstanding differences between the two neighboring Arab countries, Deputy Premier, Foreign and Information Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad said Saturday.

The meeting of the two ministers, Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali of South Yemen and the Omani Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Yusuf al-Alawi will boost the dialogue that opened here today between delegations representing both countries.

Shaykh Sabah Saturday received the delegations of both countries led by the Director of the Arab Affairs Department at the South Yemeni Foreign Ministry 'Abd al-Wahid Faruq and his Omani counterpart Musallam ibn 'Ali Al Bu Sa'idi. The meeting was attended by the Foreign Undersecretary Rashid al-Rashid, the Secretary General of the Committee for Cooperation with the Arab Gulf states Dr Salim Jabir al-Ahmad, the South Yemeni ambassador in Kuwait 'Ali 'Aydarus Yahya and the Omani ambassador Sa'ud Salim al-'Ansi.

The two-hour talks between the delegations were held at Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad's office and under his patronage. Shaykh Sabah described the talks as positive and said they were held in a fraternal and frank atmosphere.

He added that the foreign ministers of both countries would meet in Kuwait Monday in order to give boost to the dialogue with the aim of restoring the natural brotherly relations between South Yemen and Oman.

Kuwait News Agency was informed by authorized sources that Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad had affirmed to the delegations the need for ending the disputes between their countries in order to devote themselves to the development and construction process and to avoid the danger of foreign powers rivalry in the region and to preserve the region's security and stability from outside influence.

The delegations will resume their meetings at Dasman guest house Saturday evening to discuss the agenda of the foreign ministers meeting.

The Omani minister is expected to arrive here Sunday evening while the South Yemeni ministers will arrive in Kuwait later Sunday or Monday morning.

Omani Foreign Minister Arrives

LD241930 Kuwait KUNA in English 1646 GMT 24 Oct 82

[Text] Kuwait, Oct 24 (KUNA) -- The Omani minister for foreign affairs, Yusuf al-Alawi, arrived here Sunday to preside over his country's delegation to conciliation talks with South Yemen jointly sponsored by Kuwait and the UAE. Al-Alawi told KUNA on arrival that the negotiations were an opportunity to discuss with Yemeni Foreign Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali "outstanding differences between our countries".

He hoped that the joint mediation efforts would be successful. "We have come with hearts full of strong and serious desire to end the disputes," the minister said, added "We hope to start a new stage of relationship based on good neighborliness, non-intervention and peaceful co-existence between all countries in the region." He concluded by expressing great hopes in implementing the final goals of those talks.

The Omani official was received at Kuwait International Airport by Deputy Premier, Foreign and Information Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad, Undersecretary at the Foreign Ministry Rashid ar-Rashid, Secretary General of the Gulf Cooperation Council 'Abdallah Bisharah. The reception party also included head of the Omani team and director of the Arab Affairs Department at the Foreign Ministry Musallam ibn 'Ali Al-Bu Sa'idi, Omani envoy to Kuwait Sa'ud Salim and the remaining members of the Omani delegation and head of the Protocol Department at the Kuwaiti Foreign Ministry Ahmad 'Abd al-Wahid al-Ayyub.

The Omani state minister told Radio Oman in Muscat that previous meetings have approved halting information campaigns adding that progress was achieved in this respect. He hoped that during the current sessions an agreement would be reached to end all pending problems and bring about a better relationship between the two Arab neighbours.

The Gulf Cooperation Council had assigned Kuwait and the UAE to mediate in the Omani-South Yemeni dispute. The efforts succeeded in concluding a four-point agreement last June when the two delegations met here for the first time. The agreement stipulated non-interference in internal affairs, mutual respect for national sovereignty, halting media campaigns and establishing diplomatic representation.

The two neighbouring Arab countries had been trading accusations for many years of hosting foreign bases and of feeding internal attempts to topple the regimes. The Arab states have repeatedly indulged in military activities against each other but waged no wars.

QNA Report

GF241946 Doha QNA in Arabic 1906 GMT 24 Oct 82

[Excerpt] Kuwait, 24 Oct (QNA) -- Preparatory talks between the PDRY delegation led by 'Abd al-Wahid Faruq, head of the PDRY Foreign Ministry's Arab homeland department, and the Omani delegation led by Musallam ibn 'Ali Al Bu Sa'idi, head of the Omani Foreign Ministry's Arab affairs department, resumed in Kuwait today. The talks, which began yesterday, aim to eliminate the differences between the two countries, establish normal relations between them and prepared for the meeting that is scheduled to be held in Kuwait tomorrow, 25 October, between Yusuf al-'Alawi, Omani minister of state for foreign affairs, and PDRY Foreign Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali.

A round of talks was held in Kuwait between delegations of the two countries last July.

The QNA correspondent in Kuwait says that officials in Kuwait are showing noticeable interest in the Omani-PDRY talks which began on 23 October under the auspices of Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister, foreign minister and information minister.

The QNA correspondent adds: Talks between the two countries, particularly those between their foreign ministers which are scheduled to begin tomorrow, 25 October, may lead to the restoration of normal relations between Oman and the PDRY and the strengthening of friendship between them. The QNA correspondent says that Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad said yesterday that an atmosphere of frankness, optimism and a positive attitude prevails in the talks.

PDRY Foreign Minister Arrives

LD251110 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 25 Oct 82

[Text] The PDRY minister of foreign affairs, Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali, arrived in Kuwait today to meet the Omani minister of state for foreign affairs, Yusuf al-Alawi, with the aim of arriving at a conciliation between the two countries and at removing the reasons for the differences between them. He was met at the airport by Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, the deputy prime minister, foreign minister and minister of information, and a number of senior Foreign Ministry officials.

The Omani minister of state for foreign affairs arrived in Kuwait yesterday.

MINISTER: NO PLANS TO INCREASE OIL PRODUCTION

LD231110 Kuwait KUNA in English 1010 GMT 23 Oct 82

[Text] Kuwait, Oct 23 (KUNA) -- Oil Minister Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah has indicated that Kuwait has no plans to increase its oil production, and said that [words indistinct] industry activities will focus on exploration, development and refining.

In an interview Saturday with "AL-ANBA" daily, the minister added that oil prospecting inside Kuwait and abroad has been for the past four years a major aspect of the Kuwait oil industry activity.

Following the acquisition of the Santa Fe company by the Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (KPC) last year, Kuwait-owned drillers have taken part in oil exploration in about 20 developing and developed countries, Al-Khalifah said. Saying that the Santa Fe takeover has proven to be a profitable venture, the minister underlined that the acquisition of that world company raised the Kuwaiti oil industry's technical performance in drilling and refinery engineering.

The minister made it clear that the present integration of the corporation gives the Kuwaiti oil policy momentum and contributes to the diversification of income sources. He further explained that this is being achieved through Kuwait's international participation in drilling and refining operations with prospects for a more intensive investment in that sector due to the accumulation of expertise.

On the domestic level, Kuwait set a plan last June to raise its refining capacity to 800,000 barrels per day from 600,000 bpd by 1986 because it was more profitable and easier to market refined products than crude oil.

While, indicating that KPC profits were "big" despite the deteriorating conditions in the international oil market due to the current over supply, the minister said plans are underway to modernise Mina 'Abd Allah refinery and Al-Ahmadi refinery to provide for high quality petroleum products.

For that purpose, the KPC capital was raised last June by 150 percent under a bill passed by the parliament mainly to cover the expenses of modernising and expanding the state's three refineries, prospecting for new oil deposits and developing existing oil fields.

Further Remarks

LD231656 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1451 GMT 23 Oct 82

[Text] Kuwait, 23 Oct (KUNA) -- In a statement published by the Kuwaiti AL-WATAN and AL-ANBA' today, Oil Minister Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah as-Sabah stated that Kuwait will attend the OPEC meeting in order to be faced with the facts. He also said that it was prepared to accept any reconciliatory proposals.

He said: "Kuwait is prepared to accept reconciliatory proposals even if this means some sacrifice on its part in the short term, provided that these proposals are just and apply to all and all abide by them."

Speaking of the prices of oil products in the light of current conditions, he said these prices were dependent on the price of crude oil. He pointed out that if there is a glut of crude oil and if some countries consequently sell crude oil at prices lower than those fixed by OPEC, it is only to be expected that the prices of oil products will reflect the glut and the lower crude oil prices.

Replying to a question about the Kuwait petroleum establishment, Shaykh al-Khalifah as-Sabah said that "It is now one of the most important sources of income for Kuwait from fields other than the selling of oil." He added that the establishment was not new and that its roots go back 22 years ago when work began on the establishment of national oil companies such as the national petroleum company, the petrochemical industries company and the Kuwaiti oil tankers company.

CABINET DECIDES MONETARY TRANSACTION MEASURES

LD250020 Kuwait KUNA in English 1707 GMT 24 Oct 82

[Text] Kuwait, Oct 24 (KUNA) -- The Council of Ministers reviewed Sunday the measures taken in light of the decree on dealings relating to the deferred company shares dealings and the result of the registration of these dealings. The Cabinet acquainted itself with the volume of the problem and the number of individuals and corporations involved and the sums of money represented in these dealings.

The ministers noted the studies conducted by numerous quarters concerned from all angles of the problem.

Since the government has announced its intention to back public and private financial institutions and individuals by protecting both depositors and dealers in the interest of citizens' economic benefits and to uphold confidence in the national economy, and since the ultimate objective of the government, in addition to guarding public interests, is to protect the petty investors who indulged in these dealings in good faith unaware of its hazards and loopholes, in the light of the aforesaid and on the presentations made by the minister of commerce and industry and the minister of finance, the Cabinet decided the following:

Firstly: The ration that is to be added to the price at the time of the deal stipulated in Article Five of Decree Number 57 in 1982 referred to shall be deemed as the same ratio agreed upon by the two parties at the time of the deal unless they have otherwise agreed on a lesser ratio.

Secondly: The fund shall pay the debtors each according to the sums involved according to the schedule attached to the decision after a judgement is passed obliging the indebted to meet the debt and after the arbitration committee refers him to the attorney general's to declare bankruptcy according to the law.

Thirdly: Post-dated cheques dated after 20.9.1982 shall be reduced to the price of the date of the deal plus a ratio of interest representing the differences between the deferred purchase price and the immediate price calculated on the ratio of the period elapsing after 20.9.1982.

Fourthly: Payment shall be made in cash or by bonds issued by the fund.

Fifthly: By meeting the payment, the fund shall replace the debtor regarding all his rights towards the indebted.

Sixthly: Necessary legal procedures shall be taken to implement the aforesaid.

The decision was signed by the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Sabah.

The schedule includes four points specifying the mode of payment regarding each deal.

Firstly: The fund pays the sums of money on the bases of the following schedule after issuance of the judgement by the arbitration committee obliging the indebted with the debt and referring the indebted to the attorney general to take measures of declaration of bankruptcy.

1. Dealings not exceeding 100,000 KD shall be paid in cash immediately after issuance of judgement by the arbitration committee.
2. Dealings exceeding 100,000 KD but not exceeding 250,000 KD shall be paid by cheques due after six months of the date of issuance of the judgement by the arbitration committee.
3. Dealings exceeding 250,000 KD but not exceeding 500,000 KD shall be paid by bonds due on 30.6.1984.
4. Dealings exceeding 500,000 KD but not exceeding 750,000 KD shall be paid by bonds due on 31.2.1985.
5. Dealings exceeding 750,000 KD but not exceeding one million dinars shall be paid by bonds due on 30.6.1987.

Secondly: If dealings of one person in a certain category exceeds double the maximum sum specified the balance shall be transferred to the succeeding category.

Thirdly: The total dealings of one person shall not exceed two million dinars.

Fourthly: In order to determine the category the total dealings of the debtor against all bankrupts shall be added.

Fifthly: A debtor in any of the five categories may forfeit part of the sum upheld by the arbitration committee so as to enter in a lesser category in which case his forfeiture regarding the fund shall be deemed final.

ASSEMBLY REJECTS CHANGING NATIONALITY LAW

GF241146 Kuwait ARAB TIMES in English 24 Oct 82 p 7

[Text] Kuwait, Oct. 23 -- A proposal to re-examine the grounds for granting Kuwaiti nationality was turned down by the National Assembly today.

Deputies rejected the motion, earlier tabled by one assemblyman, that people with criminal records were sometimes able to obtain Kuwaiti citizenship while others resorted to "tricks" to deceive the authorities. The deputy pressed for an amendment that nationality could be withdrawn if it were obtained by unlawful methods. He referred particularly to cases of Kuwaitis turning up to claim new identity papers after their original cards were either "damaged or lost".

Opposing the proposal, the house agreed that Kuwait needed more, not fewer people with Kuwaiti nationality in the interest of national security.

"The deputy should have proposed that policemen and soldiers who had served this country be granted the papers without delay," one deputy said. Another deputy said it would be "unethical" to let people live in Kuwait for twenty years or more, amass wealth and then deprive them of nationality because of some "proven trick". "The law of this country cannot discriminate on the grounds of religion or race," added another deputy.

The house agreed that the nationality law formulated in post-independence days was adequate, and by a majority of 22 against 13 turned down the proposals.

OMAN

ENVOY TO UN ON ENDING MOVE TO EXPEL ISRAEL

GF230724 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0545 GMT 23 Oct 82

[Excerpt] United Nations, 22 Oct (WAKH) -- Mahmud Abu an-Nasir, permanent Omani representative at the UN, announced that the Arab group has decided to abandon its decision calling for the suspension of Israel's membership in the UN General Assembly, and to be content with submitting a collective memorandum on behalf of all the Arab group members and the Islamic and nonaligned countries group to convey the restraint of all those countries, who have signed the memorandum, regarding the acceptance of the Zionist entity's credentials at the UN General Assembly.

In a news conference he held here tonight, the Omani representative stated that the countries that signed the memorandum will explain that Israel is no longer qualified to hold its membership at the General Assembly for its aggressive and terrorist policy in occupied Arab territories, for waging a mass annihilation campaign against the Lebanese and Palestinian civilians in Lebanon, for annexing Jerusalem and the Golan Heights, for its disrespect of the UN Charter and its resolutions, and finally because it has proved that it is not a peace-loving country.

He added that the Arab group will continue to watch Israel's behavior and it has the right to reconsider this case and renew its campaign for expelling Israel from the General Assembly in case Israel continues its aggressive policy. He explained that the reason for abandoning the expulsion plan and adopting restraint is for general interest and due to the call of friends and is not due to U.S. threats to withdraw from the organization in protest.

BRIEFS

GCC MEMBER VISA ABOLISHED -- Oman this week decided to abolish entry visas for businessmen from memberstates of the Gulf Cooperation Council. The government sent a message to the council's General Secretariat in Riyadh, informing it of the decision which became effective from the first of this month. [Excerpt] [Manama GULF MIRROR in English 16 Oct 82 p 6 GF]

SAUDI ARABIASEKOU TOURE CONTINUES ISLAMIC PEACE MISSION

AB230905 Conakry Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 22 Oct 82

[Text] President Ahmed Sekou Toure arrived in Jidda, Saudi Arabia on Thursday evening along with the president of the Executive Committee of the PLO, Brother Yasir 'Arafat, with whom our leader will hold talks on the Iran-Iraq conflict within the framework of the Islamic peace committee of the Islamic Conference Organization [ICO]. Here is a report from our special correspondent, Modisso Rifai:

The head of state, supreme leader of the revolution, President Ahmed Sekou Toure, this Friday, 22 October, opened the meeting of the seventh session of the Islamic peace committee charged by the third ICO conference with the task of solving the fratricidal conflict between Iran and Iraq. Before the first meeting, the supreme leader of the revolution received in audience successively Chairman Yasir 'Arafat of the PLO, Brother Habib Chatti, secretary general of the ICO and Moustapha Niasse, Senegalese minister of state for foreign affairs. The first meeting, which was attended by the abovementioned delegations, also saw the participation of the ambassadors of Pakistan, Bangladesh, Turkey and Malaysia. These ambassadors were mandated by their various governments to take part in this seventh session. In his opening speech, the president of the Islamic peace committee, President Ahmed Sekou Toure, stressed the need of making the committee's action more effective by always laying emphasis on the objective analysis of the facts and on firmness in the defense of Islamic morale.

In the afternoon, after the normal Friday prayers, the committee held its second meeting at 2100 local time. Following this meeting, the president of the Islamic peace committee, President Ahmed Sekou Toure, answered questions from newsmen. He stated that the meeting has mandated a 12-member delegation led by Senegalese Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Brother Moustapha Niasse to visit Tehran and Baghdad with a view to submitting to the authorities of these two countries the complementary measures taken on the basis of letters received from the two warring capitals.

Following the delegation's mission to Baghdad and Tehran, it is possible that the committee itself will go there. Already, the president of the committee and supreme leader of the revolution has reaffirmed his optimism that reason will surely triumph over chauvinism and pride, because, he pointed out, no matter how long the war lasts, the two countries stand to lose in the end.

Recalling the baneful consequences of this war both for Iran and Iraq, as well as for the Islamic religion, the supreme leader of the revolution called on the authorities in Baghdad and Tehran to accept the negotiations aimed at restoring (peace), an essential factor for the strengthening of unity of action among the Islamic people in the face of permanent challenge by Israeli Zionism.

Following this news conference, the supreme leader of the revolution received in audience the Iranian charge d'affairs in Jidda who, it will be recalled, was at the 'Abd al-Aziz International Airport to welcome the supreme leader of the revolution along with the amir of Mecca, authorities of the city of Jidda, the staff of the ICO Secretariat and our embassy in Saudi Arabia.

Chairs Committee

LD241602 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1154 GMT 24 Oct 82

[Text] Jidda, 24 Oct (SPA) -- The Islamic Good Offices Committee met at Al-Hamra palace in Jidda at midday today under the chairmanship of the president of Guinea, Ahmed Sekou Toure.

The meeting was attended by the secretary general of the Islamic Conference Organization, Habib Chatti; Senegal Foreign Minister Moustapha Niasse and the ambassadors of the Islamic member states of the committee.

The Islamic Good Offices Committee concluded its meeting at 1530 this afternoon. The committee announced in a statement issued on the conclusion of its meetings that it will continue its mission through the conduct of fresh contacts with the two countries. The committee added that progress was achieved during the current session of the committee. It expressed its satisfaction at the level the talks with the two sides have reached. Following is the text of the committee's statement:

The Islamic peace committee held a session from 22 to 24 October under the chairmanship of Guinean President Ahmed Sekou Toure. After thoroughly examining the new situation, the committee saw it appropriate to include some amendments on the proposals contained in the peace plan that the committee submitted to the two sides during its previous session.

The committee sent a delegation, led by Hadj Mustapha Niasse, Senegalese minister of state for foreign affairs, that included Abdallah Toure, Guinean minister of foreign affairs, and the ambassadors of the member states of the committee to Tehran and Baghdad. The delegation met in Tehran with Iranian Foreign Minister His Excellency 'Ali Akbar Velayati and President 'Ali Khamene'i. The delegation then headed for Baghdad, where it was received by 'Izzat Ibrahim, deputy chairman of the Revolution Command Council, in the presence of His Excellency Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister, and His Excellency Dr Sa'dun Hammadi, foreign minister.

On its return to Jidda the delegation submitted a report to the committee, which discussed it. The committee noted that progress was made during this session and decided to continue its mission through fresh contact with the two countries, which will be made according to President Ahmed Sekou Toure's, the chairman of the committee's, directives. The Islamic peace committee expresses its satisfaction at the level talks have reached and wishes to see these talks lead to the realization of the Islamic nation and its states' aspirations in the return of peace between the two Muslim countries of Iraq and Iran.

Says Talks Deadlocked

LD251128 Kuwait KUNA in English 1014 GMT 25 Oct 82

[Text] Riyadh, Oct 25 (KUNA) -- Head of the Islamic goodwill committee Guinean President Ahmad Sekou Toure left Jidda Monday after announcing that the committee efforts to end the Gulf conflict between Iran and Iraq have reached a deadlock.

Senegalese Foreign Minister Moustapha Niasse, who headed an Islamic team that visited Tehran and Baghdad last Saturday, also left Jidda following the unsuccessful mediation efforts in the two warring Gulf capitals.

President Sekou Toure briefed King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia Sunday night, who is the head of the Islamic Conference Organisation on the committee's efforts in this stage and its determination to continue such efforts as to bring about a halt to the 25-month long Gulf war.

The Islamic peacemaking efforts date back to January 1981 when the Islamic Conference Organisation set up the high level committee to mediate a peaceful settlement of the Iranian-Iraqi war.

The committee's nine shuttles to both Baghdad and Tehran failed to work out a compromise acceptable to both combatants as Iran's leaders repeatedly indicated that the committee's proposals were biased to Iraq.

Last Saturday the ICO committee designated a team to visit Tehran and Baghdad to pursue good-offices, but Iran reiterated its conditions to end the war. These included mainly naming Iraq as "the aggressor", the payment of war reparation by Iraq and the repatriation of 100,000 Iraqi exiles living in Iran.

ICO Secretary General Habib Chatti was quoted Sunday night as saying that the official Iranian reply to the committee's proposals will be received within two or three days. Chatti did not indicate however, whether the Islamic team presented to Tehran and Baghdad fresh proposals on a negotiated settlement. The ICO has initially called for the withdrawal of troops to the internationally recognised borders, the positioning of Islamic troops on joint borders and placing the disputed Shatt al-'Arab waterway under Islamic supervision.

Meanwhile, the Gulf press appealed to Iran to cooperate with the Islamic mediation efforts especially that Iraq had earlier launched a number of peace initiatives and accepted the ICO proposals which were all turned down by Tehran. In Abu Dhabi, AL-FAJR newspaper cautioned that "the situation in the region was very dangerous and that big powers are seeking an opportunity to intervene in this strategic part of the world." The continuity of the Gulf war, the paper went on, provides the big powers with such an opportunity and the subsequent intervention would be conducive to "endless catastrophes."

UAE

OFFSHORE OIL COMPANY HALVES PRODUCTION

GF241840 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1815 GMT 24 Oct 82

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, 24 Oct (WAKH) -- ADMA, the Abu Dhabi offshore oil company, has decided to reduce its oil production by 50 percent, from 500,000 to 250,000 barrels a day.

This was announced by George (Mansistarsky), ADMA's director general. He said this decision is in implementation of the UAE policy to conserve its oil wealth for future generations.

Speaking at a news conference today on the 20th anniversary of the export of the first shipment of UAE crude oil from the Umm ash-Sha'if offshore oilfield, ADMA's director general said that during the past 20 years ADMA's oil production increased from 30,000 barrels a day in 1962 to about 500,000 barrels a day in the past years.

ABU GHAZALAH 'LIKELY' NEXT PRIME MINISTER

PM221655 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 23-29 Oct 82 pp 10-11

[From "AL-MAJALLAH correspondents" Feature]

[Text] According to certain Cairo sources, Egyptian Defense Minister Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah is likely to head the next government when President Husni Mubarak decides to carry out a drastic Cabinet reshuffle. Marshal Abu Ghazalah recently declined two scheduled visits abroad, the first being to Italy and the second to Austria. The reason was that Mubarak had charged Abu Ghazalah with certain important matters that required his presence in Cairo.

'ALI MAKES STATEMENT ON RETURN TO CAIRO 24 OCT

NC242311 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2215 GMT 24 Oct 82

[Text] Cairo, 24 Oct (MENA) -- Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali returned to Cairo from Rome tonight, concluding a 4-day visit to Italy.

On his arrival, 'Ali said that he discussed two issues during the visit. The first was political and dealt with the situation in the Middle East, with emphasis on the Palestinian and Lebanese question. Viewpoints between Egypt and Italy were identical, he said, adding that Italy had shown interest in the stability of the region, which is represented in its participation in the multinational forces in the Sinai and Lebanon.

The second issue, he said, was economic cooperation between Egypt and Italy. 'Ali said the Italian Government has allocated soft loans to Egypt. They include \$100 million in commercial loans, \$15 million in grants, and \$105 million in low-interest credit facilities.

Following the approval of the Egyptian 5-year plan, Egypt will ask for Italy's participation in a number of projects through international bids. Italy, he said, can participate in food, security, infrastructure, and new community projects.

'Ali said that he also discussed military cooperation between Egypt and Italy and that he reached some positive points in this connection that should increase the volume of bilateral cooperation in the military field.

'Ali said that his meeting with Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil in Rome was very good and cordial. During the meeting, they discussed the situation in Lebanon and the importance of the withdrawal of all foreign forces from that country. They also discussed the Palestinian problem.

'Ali said that the Lebanese president showed good sentiments toward Egypt and asked him to convey an oral message to President Mubarak.

On the possibility of the Lebanese president visiting Egypt during his upcoming Arab tour, 'Ali said this subject was not discussed during the meeting. However, the Lebanese president had previously met with Egyptian officials, such as his meeting with Salah Zaki, head of the Egyptian interests mission in Beirut, and his meeting with Dr 'Isamat 'Abd al-Majid, head of the Egyptian delegation to the United Nations.

Discussing the European role in solving the Middle East crisis, 'Ali reaffirmed the importance of this role, saying it constitutes an instrument of pressure on the world public on one hand and on Israel on the other. In this he noted the consultations Egypt is constantly holding with the West European states, as well as with the United States and the East European states.

'Ali affirmed the need to continue these consultations until a formula is reached for solving the Middle East issue, which affects the stability of all the world's states.

Concerning the Tabah issue, 'Ali said that he had sent a message to the Israeli foreign minister and another message to the United States calling for the resumption of the negotiations on this problem.

NEGOTIATIONS WITH ISRAEL ON TABAH ISSUE TO RESUME

NC232022 Paris AFP in English 2012 GMT 23 Oct 82

[Text] Cairo, Oct 23 (AFP) -- Egypt is prepared to seek the resumption of negotiations with Israel on the future of a disputed one square kilometer (0.39 square mile) section of the Sinai Peninsula on the Gulf of Aqabah, reliable sources said here today.

It was officially announced, meanwhile, that a committee appointed by the Egyptian Foreign Ministry to examine differences between the two states on the Tabah region had completed its study.

An "intermediate accord" was reached last April just before the withdrawal of Israeli troops from the Sinai. Under this agreement, Israel was to withdraw to the frontier established in 1906 between Egypt and what was then the Ottoman territory of Palestine.

The contested zone would have been placed under the control of the multi-national Sinai buffer force until the dispute was settled either by "arbitration or conciliation."

Meetings following the interim accord were unable to resolve the differences and no sessions have been held for six months.

The Egyptian magazine AL-MUSSAWAR yesterday accused Israel of proceeding with the annexation of the disputed territory. The magazine said the nearby Israeli port city of Eilat has retained a civilian firm to handle security in the zone, in clear violation of the interim agreement. The security agents, according to the magazine, have been reinforced by regular police patrols stationed midway between Egyptian and Israeli checkpoints on either side of the demarcation line.

AL-MUSSAWAR also reported that construction in the disputed region of the Hotel Sonesta is nearing completion, again in violation of the preliminary agreement according to which all work on the project was to stop.

The magazine said the hotel's owner, Rafi Milson, was preparing elaborate inauguration ceremonies for November 1, to be attended by Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin and Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon.

'ALI SENDS MESSAGES TO SHULTZ, SHAMIR ON TABAH

NC250639 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 25 Oct 82

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali has stated that he has sent messages to the U.S. secretary of state and the Israeli foreign minister on the resumption of talks at the technical level on demarcating the borders at Tabah in southeast Sinai. He said Egypt is awaiting replies to the two messages.

An official source in the Foreign Ministry said yesterday that Kamal Hasan 'Ali would send a message to the U.S. secretary of state and another message to the Israeli foreign minister on the situation in Tabah and Egypt's position on the latest developments by Israel in this area.

ABU GHAZALAH SPEECH AT NILE VALLEY CONFERENCE

NC241537 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1335 GMT 24 Oct 82

[Text] Al-'Arish, 24 Oct (MENA) -- Field Marshal 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production, has announced that Egypt will produce its first air defense missile in February, 1984.

In answering the questions posed by the members attending the Sudanese-Egyptian young parliamentarians' conference which is being held in Al-'Arish, Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah announced that an agreement has been reached with France to assemble Mirage-2000 aircraft in Egypt. The deputy prime minister and minister of defense affirmed that the current war production meets the basic needs of the armed forces.

Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah explained that Egypt gives weapons to Iraq because it is motivated by its conviction that this will guarantee the security of the Gulf and the security of Egypt and Sudan. In the meantime, he indicated that the Iraq-Iran war will use up oil (?resources) and Arab capabilities.

In answering the questions posed by the members attending the Nile Valley young parliamentarians' conference, Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah made it clear that Egypt has military instructors in all of the Gulf states without exception, and that this comes as an affirmation of Egypt's national role in the security of this region.

Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah also talked about the construction of the Sinai. He said the national authority for the construction of the Sinai has set up a plan for building 19 villages in the Sinai area. The villages, in which the youth will work, are to be built according to the most internationally advanced system. He pointed out that the armed forces have set up a plan to provide a 60,000-strong technically, trained manpower pool from the soldiers who have ended their military service and will enter the manpower market next year. He also indicated that the armed forces may participate in setting up vital projects that link Egypt to Sudan, such as highways between the two countries.

ABU GHAZALAH TO DISCUSS U.S. ARMS SHIPMENTS 8 NOV

NC230844 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0730 GMT 23 Oct 82

[Text] Cairo, 23 Oct (MENA) -- Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production, will issue a statement to the People's Assembly on 8 November on the shipment of U.S. arms to Egypt. It is expected that Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah will forward some documents that corroborated the soundness of the shipping transactions.

Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah will address the assembly in response to a query that was submitted by an assembly member concerning this subject, which was raised by the newspaper ASH-SHA'B, organ of the opposition Labor Party. The paper reported that there are irregularities in the costs of shipping U.S. arms to Egypt, leading to higher shipping costs.

PAPERS VIEW ARAB COMMITTEE'S VISIT TO U.S.

NC220008 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2322 GMT 21 Oct 82

[Text] Cairo, 21 Oct (MENA) -- The newspapers AL-AKHBAR and AL-AHRAM comment on the task of the seven-member Arab committee which will begin in Washington tomorrow, Friday, to present the Arab peace plan and discuss the American plan for achieving a peaceful solution to the Palestinian problem.

AL-AKHBAR says this step by the Arab side is the right step on the right path to achieve peace in the Middle East and frustrate Israel's ruse that the Arabs reject peace.

The paper adds that despite the Fes summit initiative coming late -- had it come earlier, quicker steps on the path of peace would have been accomplished and many grave events, particularly Israel's invasion of Lebanon and the massacre of Palestinians, would have been averted -- it, nevertheless, is regarded as the first realistic Arab step toward the achievement of peace in the Middle East.

AL-AKHBAR points out that peace will not be achieved simply by propounding a peace plan. It requires constant Arab work and bitter Arab struggle to expose Israel and compel it to submit to peace, because Israel believes that peace is not in its interest, although it calls for peace with the Arabs knowing that the Arabs reject peace. The paper calls on Arabs to start, as of now, resorting to courage and wisdom according to the political changes that have taken place in the Middle East in recent years. It emphasizes that frustrating Israel's excuses for aggression will be achieved only through the adoption of practical and (?scientific) steps to resolve the issue.

The paper concludes its commentary by wishing the committee success in its task in Washington in a way that will bring good and peace for the Arabs.

AL-AHRAM's editorial deals with the (?compromise) solution reached by the seven-member committee to avert the crisis of the presence of a PLO representative in its delegation during its visit to Washington. The solution provides for Khalid al-Hasan to remain in the hotel and to follow up the committee's talks with President Reagan tomorrow because the U.S. Government continues to refuse to recognize the PLO as long as it neither accepts Resolution 242 nor recognizes Israel in a clear, committed and frank manner.

The paper says the situation the Arab delegation is facing sums up the whole issue: Palestine, which is represented by the PLO by virtue of Arab resolutions and international acceptance, is considered present and not present -- exactly like the Palestinian right, the Palestinian entity and the Palestinian people.

The paper adds that this anomalous situation and this dual view of matters by some, and the use of two different political criteria simultaneously are in fact complicating the issue.

The paper concluded its article by saying that the Palestinian right requires a strong push to tip the scale in its favor in a world that cannot live in peace except through balanced rights.

MEDIATION DELEGATION ARRIVES IN BAGHDAD 23 OCT

JN231530 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1500 GMT 23 Oct 82

[Text] Baghdad, 23 Oct (INA) -- A delegation representing the Islamic Good Offices Committee in charge of resolving the Iraq-Iran conflict arrived here this afternoon.

The delegation, which is headed by Senegalese Foreign Minister Moustapha Niasse, comprised Guinean Foreign Minister Abdoulaye Toure and representatives of the heads of member states in the Good Offices Committee -- Pakistan, Turkey, Bangladesh and Malaysia -- as well as representatives of the PLO and Islamic Conference Organization leaders.

The delegation was received by Iraqi Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi.

Ibrahim Remarks; Group Departs

JN231946 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1845 GMT 23 Oct 82

[Text] Baghdad, 23 Oct (INA) -- The Islamic Good Offices Committee delegation led by the Senegalese foreign minister left Baghdad for Jidda tonight. The delegation arrived earlier today and was received by Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi.

During his meeting this evening with the members of the delegation, 'Izzat Ibrahim, Revolution Command Council [RCC] vice chairman, received a message addressed to President Saddam Husayn from Guinean President Ahmed Sekou Toure in which he praised Iraq's cooperation with the delegation and its positive responses to the efforts exerted to put an end to the Iraq-Iran war. The message included the proposals made by the Good Offices Committee for ending the war and resolving the Iraq-Iran conflict by peaceful means.

'Izzat Ibrahim affirmed to the delegation that Iraq has always cooperated positively and sincerely with the committee and its proposals, pointing out that the principles contained in President Sekou Toure's message to President Saddam Husayn have been Iraq's slogan and part of its noble humanitarian principles. He added: Therefore, we are proud of and totally committed to these principles.

The RCC vice chairman said: Iraq has accordingly approved these proposals in principle. It is, therefore, imperative for the Good Offices Committee -- when all methods to solve this problem are exhausted, and proceeding from its great historical responsibility -- to speak the truth and live up to the trust which has been entrusted to it by the Islamic Conference Organization. It is also imperative for the committee to disclose the outcome of its noble task to the Islamic world and state its clear and frank opinion regarding all the problems that hindered it so that the Islamic world will know the role of the parties concerned in this issue.

The RCC vice chairman praised the committee's good offices ever since it was entrusted with this historical task.

The meeting was attended by Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi.

SADDAM HUSAYN INSPECTS MANDALI REGION 22 OCT

JN221814 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 22 Oct 82

[Text] This morning, Staff Field Marshal President Saddam Husayn, the commander in chief of the armed forces, inspected a number of military units in the Mandali region in the central operational sector.

The president and the sector's field commanders reviewed the military situation in general and its developments in the Mandali region in particular. The president leader gave his directives and made remarks to the commanders and officers regarding the various aspects of combat tactics, stressing the importance of reshaping the fighters in a manner commensurate with the stage's requirements for outstanding combat experience.

Accompanying the president in his inspection visit was Khalid 'Abd al-Mun'im Rashid, director of the presidential office and acting secretary general of the Revolution Command Council. The president leader was seen off by the staff major general, the commander of the II Army Corps and a number of army commanders and officers.

ARMED FORCES COMMUNIQUE ON BATTLES WITH IRAN

Communique 880

JN221724 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1645 GMT 22 Oct 82

[Text] Baghdad, 22 Oct (INA) -- The Iraqi Armed Forces have inflicted losses on the Iranian Armed Forces in the central operational sector, amounting to 43 killed and 2 vehicles, 1 hardware stockpile and 2 observation posts destroyed. Communique No 880, which was issued here this evening by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command, pointed out that Iraqi Air Force planes carried out fierce strikes at the enemy concentrations and positions in the ('Ayn Khawsh) region east of Nahr ad-Duwayrij in the southern sector, setting all targets afire before returning safely to base.

The communique explained that the Iranian aggressors had also sustained other losses in the region east of Basra amounting to the destruction of one vehicle and one observation post. The communique added that the Iranian forces today shelled with artillery Khanaqin, Mandali and Zurbatiyah, causing some damage, wounding a number of civilians and demolishing some houses. The following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 880 issued by the Armed Forces General Command:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

With high combat efficiency and outstanding heroic steadfastness, the glorious Iraqis continued and will continue their daring operations in the operational theater against the vile Iranian regime until it gives up its expansionist designs in Iraq and the Arab homeland, resorts to peace and respects international norms and charters and relations of good neighborliness. The following are the results of the operations last night and today:

1. Our forward units in the central sector pounded enemy concentrations with various types of weapons, killing 43 and destroying 2 vehicles, 1 hardware stockpile and 2 observation posts. One of our units managed to capture one of the enemy personnel who attempted to infiltrate into our forward positions in the same sector.
2. Our air force eagles today carried out fierce strikes at enemy positions and concentrations in the ('Ayn Khawsh) region east of Nahr ad-Duwayrij in the southern sector, scoring direct and effective hits on the targets which were set afire. All of our fighter planes returned safely to base.
3. One vehicle and one observation post were destroyed east of Basra.
4. The vile enemy today shelled with artillery Khanaqin, Mandali and Zurbatiyah. The bestial shelling caused some damage and left a number of civilians wounded and some houses demolished.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 22 October 1982

Communique 881

JN231733 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 23 Oct 82

[Communique No 881 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 23 October]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

With outstanding valor and efficiency, the sons of our daring armed forces continued their activities in the operations theater against the forces of expansion and aggression last night and today with the following results:

1. Last night, an enemy force attempted to approach our forward formations in the central sector. Our brave and vigilant formations intercepted the enemy force and engaged it in a fiery battle in which all types of weapons were used. The enemy was forced to retreat from the battlefield, leaving behind a number of wounded and 134 dead whose bodies still litter the no man's land. Our forces managed to destroy one vehicle laden with hardware and one 106-mm gun and to capture a number of enemy personnel in the same sector.
2. One of our forward units sighted an enemy concentration opposite their positions in the northern sector. Our units pounded the enemy concentration, killing three and destroying one vehicle carrying personnel, two infantry positions and one hardware stockpile.
3. One of our combat patrols captured one of the enemy personnel in the ('Ayn Khawsh) region in the southern sector.
4. The Iranian aggressors today shelled with artillery the townships of Khanawin and Mandali and the village of Zurbatiyah, causing some damage and losses.

Communique 882

JN241706 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1630 GMT 24 Oct 82

[Text] Baghdad, 24 Oct (INA) -- The Iraqi forces have killed 26 Iranians and destroyed 8 vehicles, 1 gun, 1 observation post and 1 infantry position. Communique No 882, which was issued here this evening, said that the Iranian enemy today shelled Basra with artillery, killing 7 civilians, including 3 children, and wounding 38 others. The following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 882 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

With men who are creating glory and achieving victory for their homeland, people and nation, our heroic armed forces continued their military operations in the operational sectors against the racist Iranian regime's forces last night and today, with the following results:

1. Enemy concentrations were sighted opposite our units east of Basra. Our units pounded the enemy troops, killing 18 and destroying 1 observation post.
2. Eight were killed and three vehicles, one carrying personnel and the others loaded with hardware, and one infantry position was destroyed in the central operational sector.
3. Two enemy personnel were wounded in the northern sector.
4. Four various types of vehicles were destroyed in the ('Ayn Khawsh) region in the southern sector.
5. One vehicle and one gun were destroyed in the (Jananah) area in the southern sector.

6. The criminal Khomeyni clique shelled Basra this afternoon. The bestial shelling left 7 civilians, including 3 children martyrs, and 38 others suffering various wounds. The shelling, furthermore, caused some damage to a number of houses in the town.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 24 October 1982

SPOKESMAN CONDEMNS KILLING OF IRAQI POW'S

JN231146 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1115 GMT 23 Oct 82

[Text] London, 23 Oct (INA) -- A spokesman for the Iraqi Embassy in London has stated that last Friday the Tehran regime carried out a new atrocious crime when it executed more than 100 Iraqi prisoners of war in Kermanshah.

In statements to the press here today, the spokesman said that this crime was committed a few hours after the assassination of Ayatollah Ashrafi-Esfahani by the Iranian opposition last Friday because the Iraqi prisoners had refused to shout slogans glorifying Khomeyni.

The spokesman added that the Iranian regime continues to massacre Iraqi prisoners en masse, which demonstrates that this regime is bent on committing crimes that violate the international laws and principles which govern prisoners of war,

The spokesman recalled the bad conditions in which the Iraqi prisoners are living and the several hunger strikes they have staged in protest against the barbaric treatment given them by the Iranian regime.

Concluding his statements, the Iraqi spokesman held the Iranian regime responsible for the massacres and crimes that had been perpetrated against Iraqi prisoners, stressing that the Iraqi people and their valiant armed forces will not forgive the killers for their crimes.

PRC SIGNS ECONOMIC-TECHNICAL COOPERATION MINUTES

JN241150 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1130 GMT 24 Oct 82

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 24 Oct (INA) -- Iraq and the PRC signed here today minutes on bilateral economic and technical cooperation. The minutes, which were signed at the end of the meeting of the joint Iraqi-PRC committee, cover bilateral cooperation in the spheres of storage, agriculture and heavy industries. They also cover the exchange of expertise in the sphere of roads, bridges, railways, irrigation, construction, land reclamation and production plans.

In the minutes, the PRC side expressed its desire to establish joint Iraqi-PRC ventures and to have PRC companies participate in implementing Iraqi development projects and training Iraqi technicians in PRC training centers.

The two sides also agreed to cooperate in medicine and public health by exchanging visits among physicians and officials of the two countries' health ministries.

AL-MAJALLAH: 'IN PRINCIPLE' AGREEMENT ON FIGHTERS

LD221651 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 23-29 Oct 82 pp 10, 11

[From "Al-MAJALLAH correspondents" feature]

[Text] A well-informed Arab source has revealed that Jordan has expressed its readiness "in principle" to receive a large number of Palestinian fighters who are still in northern Lebanon and Al-Biqa' whose withdrawal Israel is making a condition for withdrawing its forces from Lebanon. There are about 7,000 Palestinian fighters in northern Lebanon and Al-Biqa'. The source said the fighters that Jordan will receive will join the Palestinian Liberation Army forces stationed there. The final decision on this matter depends on Yasir 'Arafat's approval and consultations with certain Arab parties concerned.

AR-RA'Y URGES U.S. TO CONSIDER PLO BASIC PARTNER

JN211125 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 21 Oct 82

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The PLO Is a Basic Partner," AR-RA'Y says: In light of the statement made by a senior U.S. official on the Washington meeting, it is clear that the U.S. administration has its own view of the course and objective of the dialogue. It wants this by specifying the points of agreement between the Arab plan and the U.S. initiative and then proceeding from there to reconcile the plan and the initiative by considering the U.S. side as a full partner in the process of a real resolution of the Palestine question.

It is natural for the U.S. administration to have its own view of the dialogue, but what amazes us is that this view is adamant on one basic fact: namely, the PLO as a basic partner which cannot be ignored. There can be no real solution without the participation of the PLO. The U.S. administration's insistence on not receiving a PLO representative within the seven-member Arab committee is unjustified, because the PLO will continue to be a basic partner in the shaping of Arab stands during the dialogue, even if it is not attended by its representative.

It has also been noted that the senior U.S. official has pointed out that the United States seeks Arab recognition of Israel. It is as if this recognition were the key to the resolution of the problem. The U.S. official did not say anything about the Israeli stand which denied the existence of a Palestinian problems in the first place and considers it a mere issue of an Arab minority living on Israel's historical land, as Begin claims.

AR-RA'Y concludes: Undoubtedly, this simplistic attitude ignores the main problem represented by Israel's denial of the existence of a Palestinian question and its insistence on devouring all Palestinian territory. The full partnership that the U.S. administration seeks to achieve a just solution to the Palestine question necessarily calls for an objective view of the issue without overlooking its basis or any of its basic partners. Perhaps Washington will seize the opportunity afforded by the dialogue with the Arab committee to reactivate the peace process in the region and improve the U.S. image in it.

AL-JUMAYYIL RETURNS TO BEIRUT 22 OCTOBER

NC221438 [Editorial Report] Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic at 1313 GMT on 22 October began a live relay from Beirut International Airport in preparation for Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil's arrival in Beirut from Rome.

According to the announcer, the aircraft carrying President al-Jumayyil and his delegation touched down at 1400 GMT. President al-Jumayyil descended from the aircraft at 1407 GMT. Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan and Chamber of Deputies Speaker Kamil al-As'ad proceeded to the ramp to shake hands with President al-Jumayyil, while a 21-gun salute was fired.

At 1408 GMT, President al-Jumayyil began reviewing the honor guard while the band played marches. President al-Jumayyil then shook hands with the papal nuncio, foreign diplomats, deputies and other senior state officials. At 1415 GMT, President al-Jumayyil proceeded to the presidential limousine followed by Prime Minister al-Wazzan and Chamber of Deputies Speaker Kamil al-As'ad. The motorcade left the airport at 1417 GMT for the Presidential Palace. The relay ended at 1418 GMT and the radio returned to the studio.

Makes Statement

NC221756 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 22 Oct 82

[Text] I reassure the Lebanese people that the visits I have paid to the United Nations, the United States, France, Italy and the Vatican were successful. I reassure the people that all the presidents and governments of the countries I visited and to which I conveyed the trust of the Lebanese people have shown the utmost interest in helping us in the march toward security and reconstruction. With these words, President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil addressed the Lebanese people from his aircraft before it landed at Beirut airport. He added: I return to my country and people following a visit to the United States and Europe during which I was eager to carry the Lebanese people's concerns, hopes and ambitions to certain capitals of the world. I will spare no effort or energy to fulfill these hopes and ambitions to the level that the Lebanese people aspire, regarding the salvation of the country and a return to normal life in dear Lebanon. I can assure you that this visit was characterized by positive aspects and outstanding readiness. This tour has again put Lebanon on the world map. What always motivates me to work is the Lebanese people's will and boundless determination to live a decent life and to be free.

CABINET DISCUSSES AL-JUMAYYIL TOUR 23 OCTOBER

NC231418 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 23 Oct 82

[Text] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil has briefed the Cabinet on the results of his tour of the United Nations, Washington, Paris, Rome and the Vatican. He referred to the positive results that will be realized for Lebanon by the friendly states, whose officials expressed an interest in and understanding of the Lebanese question. He expressed his appreciation to the heads and leaders of these states.

Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan then spoke on his own behalf and in the name of the members of government. He congratulated President al-Jumayyil and wished him success. He praised the efforts the president exerted during his international tour in the interests of the state and people.

The Cabinet expressed its satisfaction with the results of President al-Jumayyil's discussions and his international contacts at the United Nations and at the three capitals regarding the three basic issues on which the presidential discussions centered -- the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon, strengthening the Lebanese Army's ability to impose the state's authority and sovereignty over all its territory, and ensuring economic and developmental support for Lebanon's reconstruction.

The Cabinet's special session ended at 1230. It was decided during the session to convene the Cabinet at 1800 on Tuesday to review and approve the draft ministerial statement. A date will be fixed later for the appearance of the government before the Chamber of Deputies for a vote of confidence on the basis of this statement.

The following official information was distributed after the end of the session:

At the beginning of the session, the Cabinet listened to President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil, who spoke about his tour abroad, during which he delivered a historic speech at the UN General Assembly and held discussions with the presidents and senior officials of the states included in the tour -- the United States, France, Italy and the Vatican. He also held discussions with senior officials of the World Bank and various UN organizations.

During the Cabinet meeting, his excellency read a written report which he prepared on the visit, the aims of his tour, the contents of the discussions he held, and the results they produced. He expressed his gratitude and appreciation for the response and understanding expressed by all the officials he met during the tour. He then said: Our purpose throughout the visit was to explain the Lebanese question and receive the international support and backing that we need.

The official information adds: Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim then spoke. He explained to the Cabinet the discussions he held with the foreign ministers of the various states included in the visit in the presence of the senior officials assisting them. The minister stressed that the atmosphere of these discussions was extremely positive. He pointed out that the tour of the president has strengthened personnel relations between the Lebanese president and the presidents he met, and it helped consolidate international understanding of all details of the Lebanese question. He said: The policy that we will follow now will be the policy of wide diplomatic moves and of strengthening direct relations with the friendly states.

Following this, Baha' ad-Din al-Bisat, minister of electricity and water resources and housing and cooperatives, reviewed the discussions he and the chairman of the development and reconstruction council, Dr Muhammad 'Atallah held with the officials of the states and international organizations included in the visit of his excellency the president on the international aid that can be offered to Lebanon to implement the development projects and reconstruction.

The minister explained that these discussions were useful and positive and that contacts are continuing to define Lebanon's needs and the aid that can be acquired.

In the same framework, FAO Director Dr Edward Souma will arrive in Lebanon to follow up the discussions on this matter. A World Bank working and study group will also come to Lebanon to follow up the discussions that the Lebanese delegation held in Washington.

Reports say that following this, Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan said: I would like to thank his excellency the president of the republic in my own name and on behalf of the ministers, for the great efforts he exerted during his tour to expound on and serve the Lebanese cause. I note for the record that his excellency prepared a written report on his visit and talks in less than a day following the visit. Al-Wazzan added: We have followed this tour and what was reported on it through the various information media. We feel proud of what his excellency the president has done, particularly since all his talks, positions and speeches were at the core of national interests.

The achievements of this visit are considered to be an initial accomplishment in the field of national action for which he had planned. The direct contacts he was eager to follow from the beginning are worthy of thanks in Lebanese political action [as heard]. This course is sound and beneficial and will consolidate the Lebanese position, strengthen Lebanon's international relations and serve the national interests in all forums.

Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan answered newsmen's questions outside the Cabinet building. He said: [Begin recording] [Al-Wazzan] Undoubtedly, the president has succeeded in his efforts to the level that he wanted. What remains is that we as officials and citizens here in Lebanon rise to the level that [words indistinct] the world to the need of helping us to solve our problems. We have agreed to meet this coming Tuesday to endorse the Cabinet statement in its final form in preparation for (?submitting) it to the Chamber of Deputies.

[Question] [Unidentified correspondent] Mr Prime Minister, are there any practical results of the talks the president held in (?Washington)?

[Answer] I want to say that this tour was an outstanding success. We [words indistinct] certain practical results of this tour. Perhaps the first of these practical results is the arrival in Lebanon today of Edward Souma, which is the first result of this tour. We hope these results will materialize in the areas of security, reconstruction and the withdrawal [of foreign forces] from Lebanon. The withdrawal [of foreign forces] is one of the top priorities we are seeking, because there can be no homeland without complete sovereignty over all Lebanese territory. We are determined to restore our sovereignty over every inch of our territory while continuing to fulfil our aspiration of reconstructing and rebuilding Lebanon.

[Question] [Unidentified correspondent] Mr Prime Minister, certain information media reported yesterday that one of the results of President al-Jumayyil's visit abroad was to implement a security plan and ensure a withdrawal up to Ad-Damur. Is this true?

[Answer] What is true is that we are working to ensure a complete withdrawal from all Lebanon so only the legitimate Lebanese forces will remain in Lebanon. This is the goal that we are seeking. As to how this can be implemented, I maintain that it can be achieved by continuous work. [end recording]

Following that, Justice and Information Minister Roger Shaykhani spoke. He said: [Begin Shaykhani recording] His excellency the president read a report that he himself had written by hand on his tour with his accompanying delegation to the United Nations, the United States, France, the Vatican and Italy. In fact, he and his delegation succeeded during this tour. The president made great gains by stating that everyone in the world must know what is actually taking place in Lebanon. He also made gains regarding the economy, supporting the army and the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon. He also (?studied) the possibility and timing of the withdrawal of the UNIFIL forces. The United Nations decided to extend the UNIFIL mandate in southern Lebanon for 3 months after which it will discuss the fate of these forces.

We asked his excellency the minister of water and electricity about the form of aid to be given to Lebanon. We learned that some of this aid will be in the form of grants and some in the form of loans. His excellency the foreign minister has managed to strengthen his personal relations with the U.S. secretary of state and the foreign ministers of France and Italy. He now has close relations with these ministers. He believes this is the best way to reach complete agreement and understanding.

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LEBANON

His excellency the prime minister thanked his excellency the president and his delegation for the efforts they have exerted in the interest of Lebanon. We also extended our thanks. The efforts that his excellency the president and his delegation have exerted are, in my opinion and in the opinion of all Lebanese, very effective and beneficial. The president stressed that every Lebanese must participate in our efforts in order that foreign countries will help us. [end recording]

AL-'AMAL REPORT ON FUTURE AL-JUMAYYIL TOUR

NC241928 Paris AFP in English 1806 GMT 24 Oct 82

[Excerpt] Beirut, Oct 24 (AFP) -- Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil who ended an extensive tour through the United States and Europe only two days ago is now planning to visit the Arab countries in a bid to raise [words indistinct] support for war-ravaged Lebanon.

When announcing his plan to tour the Arab world yesterday Mr al-Jumayyil did not specify where he [words indistinct].

But the daily AL-'AMAL, the official [word indistinct] of the Christian Phalangist Al-Kata'ib party led by the Al-Jumayyil family, today said the president is expected to visit Syria, Jordan, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait with a departure date set for early November.

To Meet 'Arafat in Saudi Arabia

GF241306 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1133 GMT 24 Oct 82

[Text] Paris, 24 Oct (WAKH) -- WAKH has learned from informed sources in Paris that Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil will soon meet with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat. These sources say that the meeting between the Palestinian leader and the Lebanese president is likely to take place during the latter's visit to Saudi Arabia.

A Palestinian spokesman in Paris did not confirm or deny this report, but showed satisfaction at statements made by Lebanese President al-Jumayyil during his recent visits to New York, Washington, Paris and Rome.

It was announced in Beirut yesterday that during his stay in Rome, the Lebanese president received a message from Yasir 'Arafat.

'ARAFAT CABLES AL-JUMAYYIL ON TROOP WITHDRAWAL

NC230650 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 23 Oct 82

[Text] President Amin al-Jumayyil has received a cable from PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat announcing that he places himself and the Palestinian Resistance at the disposal of the Lebanese president and authority. He reaffirms that the Palestinian Resistance will not constitute an obstacle in the way of withdrawals from Lebanon.

The PLO office chief in Rome conveyed the cable to President al-Jumayyil.

MORRIS DRAPER TO ARRIVE IN BEIRUT 25 OCTOBER

NC242115 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 24 Oct 82

[Text] AFP reported a short while ago that U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs Morris Draper will arrive in Beirut tomorrow morning on a new Middle East mission. The agency said that Mr Draper, who was scheduled to arrive in Beirut today, was unable to arrive on time because of a plane delay.

During his new tour in the area, the U.S. envoy is scheduled to submit a U.S. proposal to the various parties concerned regarding the withdrawal of foreign forces from Lebanon.

DRAPER SAID TO CARRY PLAN FOR TROOP WITHDRAWAL

NC241818 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1730 GMT 24 Oct 82

[Text] Several sources reiterated today that Ambassador Draper is carrying with him details of a plan for exchanged withdrawals. In the first phase, the Zionist invasion forces will have to withdraw from the mountain areas up to Ad-Damur, in return for the withdrawal of the Syrian and Palestinian forces from some areas. In the second phase, there will be a complete withdrawal of non-Lebanese forces, together with a strengthening of the Israeli-Lebanese armistice committee.

It has been reported that in addition to Beirut, Draper will visit Israel, Saudi Arabia and Syria.

PHALANGE LEADER SAYS FORCES WILL NOT DISARM

NC241552 Paris AFP in English 1521 GMT 24 Oct 82

[Text] Beirut, Oct 24 (AFP) -- Lebanese Christian militia leader Fadi Afram today said his "Lebanese Forces" would not lay down their arms until the government had "completely regained" sovereignty throughout the country.

Speaking after a requiem mass at the militia's headquarters to commemorate the 40th day since the assassination on September 14 of President-elect Bashir al-Jumayyil Mr Afram said his troops were "faithful" to the principles of the late president and to Lebanon.

As he spoke, Israeli planes -- active over the Lebanese capital today after an absence of several days -- made eight passes overhead.

Mr Afram replaced Bashir al-Jumayyil at the head of the militia last August. Bashir al-Jumayyil's brother Amin assumed the Presidency on September 23.

Mr Afram said the militia would "continue its fight for the liberation and unification of all of Lebanon" and follow the lead of former President Camille Sham'un now head of the National Liberal Party (PNL), and Pierre al-Jumayyil, the founder of the Christian Phalangists and the father of Amin and Bashir al-Jumayyil. The PNL and the Phalangists are the two principal elements of the Christian militia.

Mr Afram offered to cooperate with President Amin al-Jumayyil to realize the goal of national unification "for which Lebanese Forces have been fighting for years."

The militia chief said that although the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) has left Beirut and the leftist Lebanese Forces have been largely disarmed, "there are still occupiers, terrorists and foreigners on our territory."

He added that two-thirds of Lebanese territory remain under Israeli, Syrian or Palestinian occupation.

The Christian militia maintains a private army estimated at 8,000 men under arms, equal, if not greater, than the strength of the national army.

In a gesture of cooperation with President al-Jumayyil, the militia has largely stopped erecting road blocks and carrying weapons in public.

Mr Afram's statement, his first public speech, showed that the Christian militia will not disarm and will not dissolve as long as foreign troops are on Lebanese soil.

BA'TH OFFICIAL RETURNS HOME FROM USSR VISIT

JN221330 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1315 GMT 22 Oct 82

[Text] Comrade Muhammad Zuhayr Mashariqah, Ba'th Party assistant regional secretary and chairman of the Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee in Syria, and his delegation returned to Damascus from the Soviet Union at noon today after taking part in the 11th AAPSO conference, which was held recently in Tashkent.

SYRIAN-SOVIET COMMITTEE TO MEET IN DAMASCUS

JN221344 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1315 GMT 22 Oct 82

[Text] The Soviet side to the Syrian-Soviet Permanent Committee for Economic and Technical Cooperation arrived in Damascus today. The committee is scheduled to hold its seventh meeting there.

RANKING IRAQI OFFICIALS REPORTEDLY EXECUTED

JN241512 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1500 GMT 24 Oct 82

[Text] Baghdad, 24 Oct (SANA) -- According to confirmed reports received from the Iraqi community abroad, Saddam Husayn, leader of the Iraqi regime, last week executed former Communications Minister Lt Gen Sa'dun Ghaydan, Finance Minister Thamir Razzuqi Shaykhli, former Oil Minister Tayih 'Abd al-Karim, former Health Minister Dr Riyad Ibrahim Husayn and others. The bodies of the executed were delivered to their families.

CABINET DISCUSSES SHAMIR-SHULTZ TALKS, EL AL

Shamir Reports on Talks

TA241518 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 24 Oct 82

[Text] Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir gave a very optimistic report today to the Cabinet on his talks in Washington. He reported that in the United States there is a new atmosphere in the administration and in the media. The U.S. administration is again regarding Israel as a partner and a strategic asset. The foreign minister denied that any pressure was applied upon him to accept the Reagan plan.

As for the arrangements [hesderim] in Lebanon, according to Minister Shamir there is no real difference in opinion between the United States and Israel.

Shamir Comments Detailed

TA250747 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 25 Oct 82 pp 1, 2

[Report by Asher Wallfish]

[Text] Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir called on his Cabinet colleagues yesterday to stop criticizing American policies and attitudes in public.

Ministers told THE JERUSALEM POST last night that Shamir's report made it plain that his American interlocutors on his recent trip to the U.S. welcomed the foreign minister's return to diplomatic activity, and the assumption of a back seat by Defence Minister Ari'el Sharon at long last. Shamir did not say this in so many words, ministers stressed. Sharon was not present at the Cabinet session.

Shamir told the Cabinet that his interlocutors told him the U.S. wanted to return to "business as usual with Israel." Without going into real detail about his two conversations with Secretary of State George Shultz and others, Shamir lent his report an optimistic hue, saying that the atmosphere of relations between the two countries had improved. He described the U.S. attitude as "relaxed."

Shamir said that Shultz told him: "Without going into the argument as to whether or not the U.S. knew about Israel's intentions in Lebanon in advance, we realize that the Soviet Union is the loser, as a result of the Israeli action in Lebanon."

Shamir also quoted another gratifying comment from the U.S. secretary of state, to the effect that the administration had come to understand that grassroots feeling within the American Jewish community, over the Reagan plan and the Lebanon affair, was more supportive of Israel than the statements of a few American Jewish leaders might indicate.

The foreign minister told his colleagues that "understanding between Israel and the U.S. about security arrangements to protect the border, and about the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon, is close."

(Ambassador Morris Draper, who returned to Beirut yesterday, is expected to visit Damascus and then come to Jerusalem later in the week, Shamir told the Cabinet.)

He said that terms like "your Israeli friends and allies" were often used by his American interlocutors.

The climate of relations had become congenial, he said, partly because previous differences of opinion between the two countries over Lebanon no longer existed. He reminded the Cabinet that the traditional differences of opinion with the Americans over the West Bank and Gaza had not been removed. They had simply not come up, for all practical purposes, during his talks.

Shamir said he understood from his conversations that Washington held that the ball was now in the Arab court as far as the Reagan plan was concerned. He understood that the plan would only return to the agenda if Jordan expressed readiness to treat it as a basis for negotiations.

Shamir, who also reported on his visit to Costa Rica, read a personal message from President Luis Monge, saying that Costa Rica "will always stand at Israel's side, whether Israel enjoys the support and sympathy of the world powers or not."

'Political Observers' Comment

TA251025 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 25 Oct 82 pp 1, 2

[Report by the political correspondent]

[Excerpt] Political observers in Jerusalem said yesterday that the optimistic feeling that Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir is trying to pass on to the Cabinet ministers and to the public about the present state of relations between Israel and the United States is not accurate. According to those observers, despite the improvement in atmosphere and understanding between the two countries, this period should be viewed as a "timeout" taken by the Americans in an attempt to reach an agreement on the question of Lebanon. This timeout will last apparently until the next U.S. attempt to apply President Reagan's plan.

Those observers, who closely follow U.S.-Israeli relations, went on to say that the friendly atmosphere and show of understanding on the part of the United States are intended, among other things, to try to neutralize Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon who, until now, represented Israel in the negotiations on Lebanon. The Americans, they added, would like to keep in touch with the foreign minister because of his less hostile attitude toward the United States and because of his practical attitude. This is despite the fact that on basic subjects there is no difference of opinion between the defense and foreign ministers, said those observers.

El Al To Be Disbanded

TA241257 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1230 GMT 24 Oct 82

[Excerpt] The Cabinet has decided to disband the El Al company. In a detailed report on the Cabinet decision, we are now going to the prime minister's office, where our correspondent on economic affairs 'Oded Shahar is waiting:

[Shahar -- live] Hello from the prime minister's office in Jerusalem. Well, the Cabinet has decided to disband the El Al company, but -- and here comes a big but -- the disbanding will only begin in 3 weeks and contacts with the workers will continue until then. Ministers David Levi and Aharon Uzan reported at the end of the session that the workers' agreement to sign the document of principles had arrived and this, in fact, is what made the Cabinet decision possible; that is, the Cabinet decides in principle to disband the company, but there is still a period of 3 weeks. Let us now hear the Cabinet announcement by Transport Minister Hayim Corfu:

[Begin Corfu recording] 1. The Cabinet gives its approval to the proposal by the directorate of the El Al company that the company's disbanding should be brought about by the courts. 2. The Cabinet will work for the establishment and functioning of a new, efficient and profitable airline company which will have labor relations founded on the document of principles accepted by the El Al directorate on Thursday, 22 September 1982. 3. When the Histadrut, with the agreement of all the work committees in the El Al company, announces that they accept the six principles included in the document of principles of the directorate, continuous negotiations for signing a new labor agreement between El Al and the Histadrut will begin, in accordance with the aforesaid document of principles. [end recording]

[Shamar] Minister Corfu was asked what the next disbanding moves would be, to which he replied:

[Begin Corfu recording] No, the directorate will at once be called to an extraordinary meeting in order to discuss the decision to disband the company. The date for convening this meeting is in 3 weeks. Before that, we will exhaust all possibilities. [end recording]

El Al Workers Accept Principles

TA241301 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 24 Oct 82

[Text] And now for a report on today's Cabinet decision, over to Harley Braidman:

[Braidman -- live] The dotted line [as heard] is that El Al workers have agreed to the six principles [drawn up by the El Al directorate] and as a result, the government has ordered the management to resume negotiations. A short while ago, Housing Minister David Levi came out and left the building and he said he believed the negotiations will start today. The company will not be dissolved and will be able to function without restructuring. Levi said there was no winner or loser and everyone must work to make sure El Al is healthy to preserve jobs. He believes the negotiations will be quick. This is Harley Braidman at the prime minister's office.

Sharon Absent From Session

TA241830 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 24 Oct 82

[Text] Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon did not take part in today's Cabinet meeting. Government sources say that he received permission to be absent in order to enable him to finish preparing his testimony for the commission of inquiry of the massacre in the refugee camps in Lebanon.

SHAMIR: TOO SOON TO REACT TO AL-JUMAYYIL REMARKS

TA221511 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 22 Oct 82

[Text] Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has said that it is still too soon to draw conclusions from the remarks by the president of Lebanon and react to them. In his view, what is needed is to continue official talks with the Government of Lebanon about security arrangements, and he thinks that an agreement on this matter will indeed be achieved. Minister Shamir was speaking at Ben-Gurion Airport on his return from a 3-day visit to the United States and Costa Rica.

The foreign minister said that there is no U.S. pressure on Israel now nor does he expect such pressure in the future.

According to him, he formed the impression that U.S. Jewry is standing firmly behind Israel and there are people who can be relied on.

He also said that there had recently been a genuine improvement in the quality of coverage on Israel on television and the press in the United States.

Further Remarks

TA221837 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1815 GMT 22 Oct 82

[Text] Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir today said that in his talks in Washington, the United States had not exerted any pressure whatsoever on Israel and that his interlocutors had not linked U.S. economic aid with the acceptance of the Reagan plan. The foreign minister returned to Israel this afternoon following a visit that lasted over 1 month in the United States and Costa Rica. He told our correspondent Menashe Raz that the talks between Israel, the United States and Lebanon on security arrangements in Lebanon will resume next week and added that the differences of opinion between Israel and the United States on this issue are not great.

[Begin videotape] [Shamir] Generally, there is agreement in principle on the proposals we presented. As for details, there may be some differences of opinion because after all this also depends on other elements. I am talking about the conditions for the departure of all foreign forces from Lebanon. Various elements are involved in this issue and they will open talks on the matter, I assume, next week, on Sunday. Then, problems will arise. The problems are not easy ones.

I think that the United States is not opposed to our approach and it will be called upon to participate in these talks to a great extent.

[Question] Israeli public figures have expressed their disappointment about Al-Jumayyil's declarations during his visit to the United States. In your assessment, is there a chance of signing a peace treaty with Lebanon in the foreseeable future?

[Answer] Indeed there may be different opinions about the first declarations by the Lebanese president. I would not rush to pass judgment before we have conducted exhaustive and detailed discussions with the Lebanese Government. A peace treaty with Lebanon is our political goal as far as relations between Israel and Lebanon are concerned. It is hard to say today that this will come about in the near future; we hope. As for other things -- security arrangements, normalization -- I believe that these are feasible and realizable. [end recording]

Shamir Interviewed

TA231250 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 23 Oct 82

[Interview with Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by political correspondent David Essing -- date, place not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Question] Mr Shamir, Lebanon's President al-Jumayyil says he's not interested in signing an agreement on security arrangements. He talks about a joint Israeli-Lebanese military commission. He says Israeli forces should leave before the Syrians. What's your reaction to the statements that President al-Jumayyil has been making to President Reagan and in the United States at the United Nations?

[Answer] Well, I know about all these statements and all their content. I think it's useless now to comment on it.

We will have discussions here, in Lebanon, and Israel, and we will try to arrive at agreements which will ensure the security arrangements and the security zones -- arrangements which are in the interest of Lebanon and of Israel.

Discussions are going on between the various governments of the area, between some governments and the U.S. Government. There will be discussions between us and the Lebanese Government, there will be continuous discussions between us and the U.S. Government, but in all these discussions I cannot see any pressure on Israel.

[Question] Mr Shamir, several of your Cabinet colleagues have accused President al-Jumayyil of ingratitude through his statements and say he is using the presence of the Israeli army, exploiting the presence of the Israeli army, for his own gains. In light of this, do you think the Israeli Government should consider some movement on the ground, withdrawing from certain areas and letting Al-Jumayyil try to get the Syrians and the PLO out on his own?

[Answer] I think it's useless now to make comments on these statements. We will have discussions in the area and after a few weeks we will know what the real situation is.

JERUSALEM PREDICTS 'EXHAUSTING' NEGOTIATIONS

TA240914 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 24 Oct 82 pp 1, 2

[Report by Yehuda Litani]

[Excerpts] Yesterday, political sources in Jerusalem assessed -- in the wake of Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's talks in Washington with Secretary of State George Shultz -- that the negotiations over the evacuation of foreign forces from Lebanon would be "long and exhausting." These sources said it would be a question of months, not weeks.

On the issue of the evacuation of foreign forces from Lebanon, the sources said that the main difficulty springs from the PLO's absolute refusal to retreat from the Al-Biqa' Valley and Tripoli, and also from the Syrians' intransigent positions on the evacuation issue, despite their avowed desire to leave Lebanon in the end. U.S. diplomat Morris Draper is scheduled to come to Jerusalem this week to resume talks on this issue.

On the topic of his talks with Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil in Washington, the same sources said that despite the disappointment Al-Jumayyil's statements caused, remarks should be regarded as "opening positions" in the negotiations. At the same time, they said, Al-Jumayyil had announced that he agreed to establishing a joint military-political committee that would discuss all the issues with him.

Al-Jumayyil has announced that he does not want to sign a joint document with Israel, but, the sources added, it was clear to him that Israel would not retreat from Lebanon before settling all the security problems, and he himself was interested in evacuating the PLO personnel from all Lebanese territory.

Al-Jumayyil is firmly against any settlement that would incorporate Sa'd Haddad and his forces into the security arrangements in Lebanon, and he is also against Israeli observation points in the security zone. What is worrying Israel more now is the issue of the evacuation of foreign forces from Lebanon, because the issue of the security arrangements and the political settlements -- whatever they are -- with Lebanon can in the final analysis be concluded with Lebanon, despite Al-Jumayyil's hard-hitting remarks in New York and Washington.

The same sources also said that Lebanese administration sources had explained to Israel recently (before Shamir's talks in the United States) that it would be possible to overcome most of the problems, and that most of the clauses of the latest Israeli proposal appear to be reasonable to them.

On the issue of relations with the United States, it has been reported that the foreign minister was favorably impressed in his contacts with the administration, and that he thinks that we have returned to an atmosphere of dialogue. Last night Jerusalem political sources said that despite this positive impression, in the not too distant future Israel can expect a substantive confrontation on the issue of the Reagan plan for a settlement of the problem of the territories.

The disagreements over the issue of the settlement in Lebanon may perhaps be straightened out through the relaxed and positive atmosphere, although on this issue, too, the United States does not see eye-to-eye with us on all the clauses; however, on the issue of the Reagan plan the dispute is profound.

Yesterday, Jerusalem political sources said that the proposal to station UNIFIL units north of the security zone in Lebanon had first been raised by Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir during his talks with Secretary of State Shultz. The idea, they said, had pleased U.S. administration officials, and they regarded it as a "reasonable solution."

POST REPORTS PROPOSAL FOR INTERIM PULLBACK

TA250758 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 25 Oct 82 pp 1, 2

[Report by Asher Wallfish]

[Text] The Israeli proposal for the withdrawal of foreign forces from Lebanon entails an interim phase, in which Israeli and Syrian troops would pull back a few kilometres from their present positions while all the PLO forces would quit Lebanese territory. The area vacated between the Israel and Syrian lines would be policed provisionally by troops of the multinational force, THE JERUSALEM POST learned last night.

Authoritative sources in Jerusalem said this element of the Israeli proposal had drawn approving reactions from the U.S. administration as had the entire Israeli "package" for Lebanon.

Although Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil had made comments about Israel during his American visit, which caused disappointment here in Jerusalem, Al-Jumayyil had not rejected Israel's proposals, the source told THE POST.

Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir told the Cabinet yesterday that Al-Jumayyil had "made a good impression on the U.S. administration because he flattered the American ego and promised Washington that Lebanon would consider itself part and parcel of the Western camp."

The sources said they expected the current swing of Ambassador Morris Draper through the Middle East to enable negotiations between Israel and Lebanon to begin, through the joint military committee, which had been functioning for some time. The sources said that the U.S. apparently does not want to interfere in discussions over the status of southern militia commander Major Sa'd Haddad, and prefers Israel and Lebanon to reach an accommodation over Haddad directly.

Israel does not object to UNIFIL deploying elsewhere in Lebanon, but it does not want the force close to the southern border, since Jerusalem holds that UNIFIL in the past proved unwilling and unable to prevent PLO encroachment and attacks.

At the same time, Israel does not want troops of the multinational force in the south, since Israel would be blamed for any casualties these troops might sustain. Israel would not flatly reject the deployment of multinational contingents in the south, however, provided that the request for their deployment came from Lebanon. The authoritative sources said that Israel's first preference was for a direct arrangement with Lebanon to police the strip along the border.

The feeling in the Cabinet is that all previous deadlines predicted here for the termination of withdrawal from Lebanon were totally unrealistic, and that when negotiations eventually commence, they will drag out well into next year.

Jerusalem expects the PLO to reject the proposal that it withdraw all its forces from Lebanese territory in the interim phase, since such a move would weaken it militarily and politically, even more drastically than before. Jerusalem realises that only Syria can exert leverage on the PLO to move, and that the Arab oil states are the only factor capable of exerting leverage on Syria.

Note has been taken here of Syria's declared readiness to quit Lebanon and of the military reasons why Syria would wish to bring about an Israeli withdrawal to match its own withdrawal. At the same time, Syria's history of driving hard bargains and the uncertainty over Syria's price for a withdrawal, have persuaded Cabinet ministers that an early withdrawal of the IDF is out of the question.

MINISTRY DENIES BEIRUT REPORTS OF PULLBACK PLAN

TA241230 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 24 Oct 82

[Text] The Foreign Ministry spokesman here in Jerusalem today said that he has no knowledge of the plan for the mutual pullback of Israeli forces and PLO terrorists in Lebanon, and more on this from Arye Heskell:

[Heskell -- live or recorded] The spokesman stressed that Israel does not make any deals with the PLO and reiterated Israel's position, that before any Israeli withdrawal took place, the PLO men and other terrorists would have to leave the whole of Lebanon.

The report originated in the Beirut newspaper AN-NAHAR, which claimed that Israeli forces would pull back 15 km from the Beirut-Damascus highway in exchange for a complete PLO and terrorist withdrawal from northern and eastern Lebanon.

Israeli officials concede that the United States has questioned the feasibility of a PLO evacuation before the Syrian forces leave. They also said that Israel's withdrawal after the terrorist forces have left would be simultaneous with a pullback by the Syrian Army. The officials to whom I've been speaking think that the departure of the PLO would have to be negotiated by the Lebanese authorities in the same way as they negotiated the terrorist departure from West Beirut.

The AN-NAHAR report maintains that the PLO and partial Israeli withdrawal plan was worked out during President al-Jumayyil's trip to the United States last week, but, as I say, the Foreign Ministry spokesman denies all knowledge of any such plan.

Regarding the feasibility of an early agreement on security arrangements for southern Lebanon which would guarantee the safety of Israeli settlements in Galilee, Israeli officials say that they still believe that these can be worked out with the Lebanese.

YEDI'OT AHARONOT DETAILS SHAMIR-SHULTZ TALKS

TA221455 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 22 Oct 82 p 4 Weekend Supplement

[Commentary by Arye Tzimuqi: "Shultz to Shamir: Do Not Pressure Al-Jumayyil into Signing Peace; It will Have the Opposite Result"]

[Text] "I suggest to you: Do not pressure Amin al-Jumayyil into signing a peace treaty at once. Such pressure will be to no avail and will be counterproductive," U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz told his Israeli counterpart, Yitzhaq Shamir, in their meeting in Washington last week.

Shultz said it would be a mistake to think that the U.S. administration is opposed to a peace treaty between Israel and Lebanon. In his opinion, the problem lies in setting the propitious time for signing an agreement on Lebanon, a country in dire need of vast aid for its recovery, aid which may come from the Arab countries.

He also hinted that as long as the foreign forces do not leave Lebanon it will not be possible to talk about a peace treaty. From Shultz remarks it may be inferred that the Americans believe that peace between Israel and Lebanon is an objective to be pursued but is not an immediate goal or a condition for attaining agreements regarding the pullout of the foreign forces and the establishment of security arrangements.

Shultz also advised Shamir not to formulate in an unambiguous fashion the Israeli demand for pulling the PLO forces out of Lebanon before the departure of the other foreign forces. In his view, it is better to demand "the PLO leave as soon as possible" without presenting this as a prerequisite because in that case the PLO would be awarded veto rights regarding the evacuation of the foreign forces.

According to him, there is no fear that the PLO will remain after the Syrians have left. Shultz reiterated that there are no differences of opinion between Jerusalem and Washington concerning the need to get the terrorists out of Lebanon, because otherwise it is hard to fathom the recovery of that country. The talk between Shamir and Shultz was held in a rather friendly atmosphere and one could discern the efforts exerted by the host to instill a good spirit in the discussions.

Shultz opened the meeting by expressing the wish that personal remarks not be leaked, that "things [such as] that are better kept quiet." He said: "Let us hold more frequent contacts, as is customary between friendly countries that are also allies." At this point Shamir remarked: "A greater degree of harmony and contact should be ensured in the dialogue between the two countries."

Shamir invited Shultz to come to this area to learn about the problems first-hand, and the secretary of state commented: "When I assumed this post, I thought about the need to tour your region but the problem is finding the right time."

The U.S. secretary of state seized this opportunity to praise Ambassador Moshe Arens and described him as a reliable, authoritative and loyal Israeli representative. In the lengthy talk, which lasted over 3 hours, there was no mention made of past rancors -- which have not yet disappeared -- and the impression was gained that both parties were making efforts to strike them off the agenda and get down to business.

Shultz spoke about the need to ensure momentum to the "talks about the interim period" in Judeaea, Samaria and Gaza and he obstinately avoided using the term "autonomy."

Shamir spoke about the autonomy, whereas Shultz talked about the interim period. There is no doubt that this was not unintentional.

Shultz also said that additional figures, including King Husayn, should join the talks. Shamir replied: "We have more than once in the past invited Husayn to join the talks but he did not show up."

Shultz immediately moved to the issue of the settlements and he noted that these give the Arabs the impression that Israel wants to establish facts in the territories so that when the negotiations begin the Israelis can say there is nothing to talk about. Shamir, of course, did what he had to do and said that the Camp David accords do not ban the establishment of settlements in Judaea, Samaria and Gaza.

As said, Shultz abstained from mentioning explosive issues in the talk because he wanted to discuss with Israel the more central and urgent issue of the future of Lebanon. It may be that due to this approach, which views the solution of the Lebanese crisis as being top priority, Shultz opted to strike other disputed issues off the agenda.

Shultz abstained from expressing a position on various Israeli proposals on the Lebanese issue presented by Shamir, although he pointed out that they looked reasonable to him and that they could serve as the basis for negotiations. He emphasized that he would prefer to discuss them jointly only after the meeting between Reagan and Al-Jumayyil. Nevertheless, it may be inferred from the tone of Shultz' remarks that he thinks the Israeli proposals reflect a flexible approach.

In the talk with Shamir, Shultz said that the Soviets have been revealing interest in what is happening in the region and that Gromyko himself had in their latest meeting proposed convening, under the aegis of the two superpowers, the countries involved in the conflict to discuss the problems afflicting the region. Gromyko also suggested that the United States and the Soviet Union hold regular talks to discuss the various problems emerging in the Middle East.

Gromyko told Shultz that his government supported the existence of the State of Israel alongside a Palestinian state. The Soviet foreign minister recalled that he himself had been the head of the Soviet delegation to the UN General Assembly in 1947 and had contributed his share to the establishment of the State of Israel.

Shultz elegantly rejected the proposals of his Soviet counterpart and observed that if the Soviet Union was interested, there was no difficulty in receiving information about what was happening in the Middle East from the U.S. ambassador in Moscow.

The secretary of state asked Shamir about Israeli-Egyptian relations. Shamir told him that the Egyptian ambassador had been recalled to Cairo without sufficient reason, but he hoped the ambassador would soon return to his post. Shultz remained silent and did not comment.

Referring to the security arrangements in southern Lebanon, Shultz said that the United States understands Israel's security needs in southern Lebanon and that inasmuch as it depended on it, the United States would help in attaining Lebanon's understanding for those needs. Nevertheless, Shultz pointed out the understanding the Americans felt for the Lebanese Government goal to ensure its sovereignty and independence throughout all Lebanese territory. The reservations the Americans have about the Israeli effort to ensure the inclusion of Major Haddad's men in the Lebanese security forces may be implied from these remarks.

It was made plain in the talks with administration officials that the U.S. administration and the Israeli Government do not see eye-to-eye on the extent of the role Haddad's men should play in guarding southern Lebanon. It is known for a fact that Amin al-Jumayyil does not want to incorporate Haddad into the security forces to be stationed in Lebanon because this would contradict his ambition to ensure independent control over all parts of Lebanon.

It is absolutely clear in Jerusalem that there is a great difference between Amin al-Jumayyil and his late brother Bashir who had maintained close relations with Israel. So far, Amin al-Jumayyil has refrained from holding contacts with Israeli representatives.

Knowledgeable people try to draw a line between Amin al-Jumayyil's anti-Israeli public statements at the UN General Assembly and his statements in the talks with President Reagan and Secretary Shultz (as reflected in reports) and the statements made by his associates in talks with Israelis.

According to reports, Amin al-Jumayyil seeks a speedy evacuation of the IDF from Lebanon, even prior to the departure of the Syrians and the terrorists. However, in contacts between Israel and Al-Jumayyil's men, the impression was clearly made that, on the contrary, he wants the IDF to remain in Lebanon at least as long as the Syrians and the terrorists have not left the country. Lebanon militarymen are not exerting any pressure whatsoever on the IDF to leave Lebanon.

Although Amin al-Jumayyil is not willing to sign a peace treaty with Israel, in talks with Israelis his men have said that they are in favor of informal strategic cooperation between Israel and Lebanon, at least at this stage.

Amin is not Bashir -- so goes the saying in Jerusalem -- but he also has a sober outlook about the vital interest his government has in maintaining contacts and practical cooperation with Israel. Israel is not apprehensive about Amin al-Jumayyil's intentions but rather about the possibility that the IDF might be forced to remain in Lebanon during the winter. Israel strongly fears that the distress of the refugees in Lebanon might become more acute during the upcoming rainy season and some Israeli leaders cannot rid themselves of the trauma caused by the serious accusations made against Israel in the wake of the heavy bombardments of Beirut and the massacre in the refugee camps. Therefore, Israel does not want to be responsible for what will happen in southern Lebanon this winter when roofless refugees who lost their homes during the war have to cope with the severe winters.

Nevertheless, Israel cannot rush to leave the area and it must proceed cautiously and coolly. Therefore, Israel will make every possible effort to act in Lebanon while assuring maximum contacts with the U.S. administration.

HARIF ANALYZES POSITIONS ON LEBANON WITHDRAWAL

TA221157 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 22 Oct 82 p 14

[Commentary by Yosef Harif: "Shamir Told Shultz That Israel Is Prepared To Withdraw From the Beirut-Damascus Highway -- After the Terrorists Leave Lebanon"]

[Text] The question of full peace between Israel and Lebanon was broached during the first conversation Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir held with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz. Shultz argued that the United States has no objection to this, but it thinks the administration of the new president, Amin al-Jumayyil, is still weak and he could not withstand all the forces both inside and outside Lebanon that could come out against him if he made peace with Israel.

Shamir contended that the exact opposite is true: Peace with Israel would only serve to strengthen him.

But both parties knew the argument was strictly academic. The issue is irrelevant for practical reasons, and even Israel acknowledges this. But as though to "calm" Israel and tell it that its whole war in Lebanon was in vain [as published], Shultz added: A formal peace, that is, an agreement founded on a peace treaty, is a long process. Take for example our relations with Japan. It took us 4 years to sign a formal peace agreement with the Japanese (after World War II). Therefore, we believe that what counts is what takes place in the field....

"In the field" means in the fabric of the practical, real contacts between Israel and Lebanon, as well as in the essence of the agreement on the security arrangements that should be determined for the 45 to 50 km zone in southern Lebanon, as part of the negotiations for the removal of all foreign forces from Lebanon.

What, then, is actually happening in the field?

The situation, as it could be gleaned from the state of affairs that preceded the extreme statements made by President al-Jumayyil in the United States, was quite encouraging: The Israeli plan for security arrangements, as presented to Lebanon before Shamir showed it to Shultz, was accepted favorably. Speaking on behalf of Al-Jumayyil, his associates announced that they regarded the plan as a basis for an agreement [heskem]. Along with security arrangements, that plan lays down a foundation for normalization of relations between the two countries, or if you will, full peaceful relations without a formal peace.

Then President al-Jumayyil goes in person and tells the United States that he does not like that plan. Anyone who expected Al-Jumayyil to come out with "the gospel" on the assumption that he was allegedly forced to use double-talk, that is, that in public he "was obligated" to be against Israel so as to win over the heart of the Arab world, but in private, in talks with Shultz and his colleagues, he would be substantive and to the point, and would consequently reveal a positive tendency toward Israel, was rather disappointed.

The disappointment was great because in effect, in the field, there is no change in the relations with Lebanon. Perhaps even the contrary is true, to use an understatement.

But the fact that Al-Jumayyil used the kind of language he did merely highlights and makes more poignant the question that featured at the center of Shamir's talks with Shultz: What will be the future of the Israeli plan for a security range in southern Lebanon?

There could have been room to assume that Israel would have to reassess its plan with the aim of possibly softening it somewhat so as to make it more acceptable to Al-Jumayyil, the decisionmaking levels in Israel had the following answer to this suggestion: the contrary, just because Amin talks this way, we want such an agreement; if not, el will not leave Lebanon.

Did Israel tell this to the United States, too?

Certainly, and apparently the United States even understood Israel's stand. It is surely not a coincidence that the United States even praised the Israeli plan, lauding it by saying that it was drawn up in a very professional manner (this was a clear compliment to Maj Gen Avraham Tamir, the national security adviser, who presented it to a large U.S. team which included some 15 members of both the State Department and the Pentagon).

In the course of the conversation with Minister Shamir, Shultz said the following quite emphatically: "Let you (the Israelis) have no doubt about what I am going to say: Just like you, we too want all of the PLO to leave Lebanon. We are only debating the most effective tactics to this common goal."

Shultz, who basically favored the Israeli plan (although in regard to several points, even though he did not reject them, he said they merited a second look), wanted the Israelis to feel good this time. Perhaps because he did not want Israel to feel neglected by the United States against the background of the confrontations that recently characterized their bilateral relations. This, apparently, was the first time Washington was prepared to admit that Israel had contributed something to the United States in relation to its enhanced status as a result of the war in Lebanon. Thus Shultz told Shamir: "Whether or not we agree with the operation ("Peace for Galilee"), one thing is clear: The Soviets' status in Lebanon has decreased substantially."

On that very occasion Shultz could not tell what al-Jumayyil's reaction to the Israeli plan would be, but apparently his reiterated phrases, addressed to Shamir in that conversation, carried special weight: "We must talk in private...." "We must act together...."

Now, after Al-Jumayyil appears to have rejected the Israeli plan totally, the time has come to test the nature of the "private" dialogue and the cooperation between the United States and Israel toward implementing the security arrangements Israel is suggesting as the final stage the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon.

Again, there is no absolute parallelism and identity between the Israeli and U.S. positions over the specifics, but there is agreement over the principles related to the two issues: the removal of the PLO forces and the simultaneous withdrawal of the Syrian and Israeli forces; and the security arrangements for the 45-50-km zone.

Yet is is the "details" which, in Israel's view, are the most crucial elements. They are: Will the setting up of early-warning stations in Lebanon, as Israel proposes, be "a detail?" The United States could raise the question of (Lebanese) sovereignty that has to do with this. Israel argues that there were also early-warning stations in the Sinai, too, and they constituted part of the Israeli-Egyptian agreement, yet the question of sovereignty never hampered such an arrangement. Why should this, then, not be accepted in Lebanon as well; after all, it will not be a full agreement, but only an interim arrangement?

Where, ultimately, will the United States stand in this argument?

For the time being, Washington has not revealed its position. Shultz was only ready to say the following: In regard to the security arrangements (for the 45-50-km strip), you will discuss this with the Lebanese, and try to reach the maximum degree of normalization you possibly can....

In effect, things are not that simple. If the matter had been left for Israel and Lebanon to deal with alone, it would have been safe to assume that Israel would have known how to take advantage of the cards in its hand to obtain "maximum normalization," but the U.S. position will carry great weight on this matter in view of the problems that could crop up on the course of the negotiations over security arrangements. It is enough to point to only one problem: What if the Syrians demand a presence in Lebanon similar to the miniscule presence Israel is demanding ("the early-warning stations")? Naturally, Israel has an answer to that: The Syrians are under no danger from Lebanon.... Is there fear that the terrorists would penetrate Syria or try to operate against it from inside Lebanon? But whatever the answer to this, it looks as if on certain subjects the Americans will have to play an active role in order to exert influence on Al-Jumayyil, and not tell Israel: You try to get whatever you can from a dialogue with the Lebanese....

The difficulty in assessing the final U.S. position stems primarily from the fact that Washington has for the moment not accepted all of the Israeli plan; it has only showed "understanding" toward it. This is not a mere pittance, but under the present complex conditions this is not enough.

Whether or not Shamir heard encouraging and more explicit things from U.S. Secretary of State Shultz yesterday than he heard before the United States found out things from Al-Jumayyil, we will only be able to tell after Shamir returns to Israel.

After his first meeting with Shultz, Shamir telephoned Prime Minister Menahem Begin and reported to him on the conversation. The picture was quite rosy. (Or as Begin expressed it to his colleagues: "After all, Yitzhaq does not have to paint the picture in rosier colors for me. He must have reported to me on the facts as they were presented, truthfully...")

Still the issue should be approached with a certain degree of caution and reserve. If, for instance, someone had been entrusted with evaluating what Al-Jumayyil would be saying in Washington -- whether in public or in private -- in view of what Israel had heard from his associates, or "on his behalf," as it was emphasized, then no doubt they would not have even imagined that Al-Jumayyil would come out with the position he did present in the United States.

Under these circumstances, it is consequently important to know what the United States would do -- not only what it would say -- in the ensuing contacts over the removal of foreign forces from Lebanon and the security arrangements in southern Lebanon.

Based on the conversations it has conducted with Foreign Minister Shamir on the level of principles, with General Tamir on the operational level, the United States knows what Israel's position is: "We will not leave the line we are on today before the PLO is evacuated from Lebanon."

But, the United States did not buy this idea in full. It pointed out the "difficulties" that may arise: Such an Israeli position actually gives the PLO a sort of "veto" power on the entire issue of the removal of foreign forces... As a result of this they have become a party to the negotiations. But upon learning that Israel does not accept this approach, the United States showed an inclination to seek another solution: It drew a distinction between the PLO in the Al-Biqa' region and the PLO in northern Lebanon.

But, the Israeli position was that the PLO must leave before the IDF begins pulling out, because the PLO is the main obstacle to any arrangement, since it is within the PLO's power to shatter such a process in any territory from which the IDF would withdraw. There is the danger that if the PLO does not withdraw before the Israelis begin moving out, its men will replace the IDF and penetrate the evacuated areas, in an attempt to carry out terrorist activity, just as happened recently in 'Alayh. We are not afraid of "an army of tanks," the Americans were told, but we are afraid of terrorist activity, and this should be your concern, too.

This will definitely be a U.S. concern from now on, if only for the simple reason that Israel made it irrevocably clear that it would not budge unless the PLO moves first.

The fact that the U.S. interlocutors, Shultz included, did not comment on this could possibly leave some room for the hope that the United States would not wish to pressure Israel alone, but would also want to exert pressure on the PLO (for instance through Saudi Arabia). But now we have seen that already on the first clause problems are arising and the United States is squabbling with Israel over the specifics. If so, how is it possible to proceed at an accelerated pace, as the United States wants things to be conducted?

Apparently Israel had already given thought to this, and because of its desire to obtain U.S. goodwill in regard to the security arrangements in the 45-50 km zone, it is inclined to come forward to the United States on other issues.

Thus, we gather that in the talks with the experts among the U.S. team, which included planning staff from the Pentagon as well, General Tamir explained: Look for yourselves and see how far we are prepared to go in making concessions. If our demand [drishatenu] regarding the PLO's pullout is made good, we will be ready to leave the Beirut-Damascus highway. This is the most important road. We reached it in order to actually guarantee that when the time comes we could be sure to get the security arrangements we need within the 45-50 km range in southern Lebanon. Our willingness at this stage to pull back to the 45-km line is conditional upon stationing a multinational force on axes extending from Al-Biq'a so that the Syrians do not return to that place.

Simple as these things sound, the United States is not accepting them outright, even though it is noteworthy that it has likewise not rejected them. The United States broached technical details mainly on the subject of the location where the multinational force would be stationed (Israel argued that the force could be positioned north of the 45-50 km line, as long as it is not inside that strip), but the problem is how to guarantee that terrorism does not reign again in that strip. The presence of a multinational force or UNIFIL would not serve to answer this. Again, the United States heard, but did not always make a comment. Which means that it did not accept everything, but neither did it reject everything. It reserved its final opinion to itself.

The impression is that the United States, too, already understands that the "accelerated pace" it recommended for the evacuation of all forces would likely not be so quick. One can presume that if the IDF had announced that it was leaving at once, the United States -- but more so the Lebanese -- would have pleaded with it not to do so. Amin Al-Jumayyil knows full well that the "calm" thanks to which he can run about all over the world and seeing presidents, making anti-Israeli comments, that quiet -- albeit relative -- in Lebanon came thanks to Israel.

If it is true that on the covert level of relations between Israel and Lebanon things are progressing normally, that could have been a different story altogether. It may have been worthwhile to tolerate the Lebanese president's jarring remarks. But, if there is no tacit agreement with Lebanon that would ensure the implementation of Israel's security desires, there is no point in letting Lebanon's new president pay all his debts to the Arab world with Israeli currency.

With all due respect to President Al-Jumayyil and his lofty aspirations, thanks to which he won acclaim and applause at UN headquarters, it is not for them or for the realization of his dream -- which he may not have had at all -- of becoming the president of Lebanon that Israel went to war in Operation "Peace for Galilee". This should be discussed now, when Israel still holds all the cards. From this point of view, it would be advisable to adopt George Shultz' formula: "What happens in the field is what is important."

So far, Washington has talked little (unless Shamir heard things from Shultz yesterday he had not heard in their first meeting) and whatever it did say was phrased in generalizations which, with all their encouraging effect, usually leave each such generalization to a lot of interpretation. Thus, for example, Shultz told Shamir: It is necessary to guarantee the proper security arrangements for you (in southern Lebanon), and such a set-up of relations with Lebanon that would be different from that preceding the war in Lebanon. Well, this is some talk. The problem now is only one: What does this mean in real terms? What are the "proper" security arrangements, and what would a "different" set of relationships envisioned by the U.S. secretary of state be?

The Israelis who attended the meetings with Shultz got the impression that what the United States fears is a "forced normalization" Israel might want to impose on Lebanon. It does not want anything done as part of the arrangements with Lebanon to be harmful either to Lebanon's laws or to its sovereignty. Nor is Israel interested in that, but with the difference that Israel does not want to force any solution; it wants an agreement [heskem]. What caused consternation this week was that it was Al-Jumayyil who tried to "force" things on Israel. Admittedly, for the moment, this was only with words, but he still tried to force arrangements on Israel he could already see in his mind.

It was Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon who said at the Cabinet session that all it would have taken was one word from the United States for Lebanon to make formal peace with Israel. But there is no longer any talk about formal peace, only about security arrangements in southern Lebanon, and rather than showing -- even in public -- the minimum amount of understanding for Israel's security needs, the Lebanese president declares, of all things, that by invading Lebanon Israel violated the 1949 armistice agreement....

This "breach" gave him the Presidency and liberated Lebanon from the PLO scare, and yet President al-Jumayyil has complaints about Israel.

There is no reason why Israel should give up even one iota on the security arrangements included in its plan, which the United States termed "professional." That is to say, that the arrangements it is suggesting are not needed for the long term, but to guarantee its immediate security requirements.

General Tamir was absolutely right in telling his professional counterparts in Washington: The Israeli plan has not even one detail that was not included in previous security arrangements (mainly with Egypt). When we reach peace negotiations, we will once again discuss the fundamentals (he meant in essence the issue of the "possible harm" to Lebanon's sovereignty if the early-warning stations are set up). Were there no early-warning stations in Umm Khushayb? Were there no aerial surveillance flights over sovereign Egypt? This is nothing new.... You have already accepted everything in the past, so do not tell us that "the question of sovereignty might crop up...."

The Israeli plan was worked out out of a fear that an uncertain and unclear situation could be created in Lebanon in the long run. In the course of the deliberations in Israel, one of those who shaped the Israeli plan said: "We must adhere to this plan, because we do not know who the next president of Lebanon might be.... We must not rely on any one person (so something was learned from the murder of Bashir Al-Jumayyil), but on facts in the area. Now, it seems, it should be said that Israel should stick to its plan on "the short term" as well, not because there is no telling who will be the future Lebanese president, but because everyone knows who the incumbent Lebanese president is....

SHARON TESTIFIES BEFORE MASSACRE COMMISSION

TA250933 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 25 Oct 82

[Text] During his testimony before the state commission of inquiry this morning, Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon said that the decision to approve the entry of Phalangists into West Beirut was the implementation of a general decision made by the Cabinet on 15 July to involve the Lebanese Forces in the fighting. Sharon explained to the commission that it was decided to introduce the Phalangists into Beirut to spare our forces heavy losses. He noted that previously the IDF had encountered fierce resistance in fighting near the Sabra and Shatila camps. Sharon stressed that no one imagined that what happened would happen, and that such a possibility was also not raised in any discussions.

He testified that on 16 September he held meetings in the Lebanese Forces headquarters, and there too no fear arose of harm against civilians. The only fear in the IDF regarding the entry of the Phalangists, Sharon said, was that they would be unable to carry out the mission adequately from an operational point of view.

Our correspondent Ehud Klausner notes that during his testimony, the defense minister asked the commission to close the session and remove the journalists, so that he could reveal secret material. However, so far the commission members have rejected his request, telling him to refrain from exposing material that seems sensitive to him from a security viewpoint.

More on Sharon Testimony

TA251048 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 25 Oct 82

[Text] Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon finished the public part of his testimony before the state commission of inquiry a short while ago. This afternoon, his testimony will continue in camera.

In his testimony this morning, Sharon said that he first received information about the massacre on Friday -- New Year's Eve -- at 2100 from Chief of Staff Refa'el Eytan. Eytan told him that the Phalangists had harmed the civilian inhabitants in the camps beyond what had been expected, and had, as he put it, gone overboard. Sharon said that it was clear to him from this report that civilians had been killed in the camps. He said that the chief of staff told him, in the same conversation, that he had met with the commander of the Northern Command and the Phalangist commanders, and had taken care to stop every action in order to prevent the introduction of further forces. He ordered the Phalangists to leave the camps by 0500 on Saturday.

Justice Aharon Barak asked the defense minister why he delayed the evacuation of the Phalangists until 0500. To this, Sharon replied that there was fighting in the camps and that the Phalangists could not possibly organize for a quicker evacuation. Sharon said that following the conversation with the chief of staff, he took no action because he believed that the IDF had already done everything it could.

The defense minister also testified that on the same Thursday on which he briefed the Cabinet about the intention to introduce the Phalangists into the camps, Deputy Prime Minister David Levi had indeed spoken about the possibility of a massacre. Justice Barak asked Sharon if Levi's remark had turned on a warning light for him. Sharon answered that a warning light was not turned on for him because Levi had only made a comment, but had not expressed reservations or opposition to the entry of the Phalangists.

Our correspondent Ehud Klausner reports that Sharon wanted to quote the Cabinet session minutes on this matter, but a representative of the attorney general who was present in the auditorium opposed this on the grounds that the minutes were confidential. As stated, Sharon will continue testifying this afternoon in camera.

IDF SOLDIER WOUNDED NEAR BEIRUT 22 OCTOBER

TA221715 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 22 Oct 82

[Text] An IDF soldier was wounded this afternoon by a bazooka shell fired at an IDF vehicle east of the town of (Dhuha), south of Beirut. The IDF spokesman announced that the bazooka shell had been fired from the ambush and that the IDF had launched searches to locate the attackers.

In another incident where our forces did not sustain any casualties, several bazooka shells and light weapons were fired at an IDF roadblock near the village of (Sil), south of Beirut. The source of the firing was inside the Ash-Shuwayfat area which is controlled by the Lebanese Army.

'TERRORISTS' FIRE AT IDF NEAR AN-NABATIYAH

TA250730 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0620 GMT 25 Oct 82

[Text] Yesterday afternoon, terrorists fired several bazooka shells at an IDF bus and two IDF jeeps on the road leading from An-Nabatiyah to the oil refineries in Az-Zahrani. No one was hurt. This morning large numbers of IDF soldiers are continuing to search for the terrorists who fired the shells.

CABINET TO DISCUSS STATE OF RELATIONS WITH EGYPT

TA241617 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 24 Oct 82

[Text] The Cabinet will hold a special discussion in one of its upcoming sessions about the state of relations with Egypt. This was decided after Minister Hammer asked in the Cabinet session what the Foreign Ministry was doing in order to break the freeze in relations with Egypt.

Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports that Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir reported that he brought up the subject of relations with Egypt in his talks in Washington and detailed the peace treaty violations of Egypt to the Americans, especially in hostile propaganda and in freezing the normalization of relations. He said that Israel views very severely the return of the Egyptian ambassador to Cairo. As for relations with the United States, the foreign minister gave a very optimistic report. He said that there is a new atmosphere there in the administration as well as in the media.

EGYPT'S 'ALI ON RETURN OF ENVOY TO TEL AVIV

TA250741 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 25 Oct 82

[Text] Egypt's foreign minister has said that his country would not discuss the return of its ambassador to Tel Aviv before it becomes clear that Israel will withdraw completely from Lebanon. In an interview with the Lebanese newspaper AN-NAHAR, Kamal Hasan 'Ali said that the signing of a peace treaty between Israel and Lebanon is not desirable under conditions of conquest. In contrast, security arrangements along the border between the two countries are desirable.

NEW SETTLEMENTS TO BE ESTABLISHED IN WEST BANK

TA241154 Tel Aviv HATZOFE in Hebrew 24 Oct 82 p 4

[Report by Hayim (Pikersh)]

[Text] In the next few months, several new settlements are to be established in northern Samaria. This has been decided by the Settlement Department of the Zionist Federation, as part of the planning for accelerated development of the new settlements in Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip.

In the first stage, the establishment of a settlement bloc will be completed in the environs of the Rehan settlement in northern Samaria, which abuts on the Arab settlements in Wadi 'Ara in the Jordan Valley.

Two large settlements are already being established in northern Samaria: Shaqed and 'Asis; preparations are now being made for establishing a third settlement to complete the bloc of settlements there.

Another settlement bloc that includes Qazir, Haris, Shaqed, Mevo Dotan and Hinnanit has been established near the bloc.

The HATZOFE correspondent adds that the settlements in northern Samaria have rescued from isolation the well-established settlement of Me 'Ammi, which has suffered over the last few years from the machinations of people from neighboring Arab villages who not only stole agricultural produce, but also fired at the settlement "by mistake" on Sabbath and holidays with the aim of driving the settlers away and preventing its development.

The Settlement Department of the Zionist Federation decided after the last meeting of the Zionist Steering Committee to grant the initial right to develop this stretch of land in northern Samaria, and to establish a chain of settlements there, some of which are to be in the format of the observation points established in Upper Galilee.

Settlement Department Members hope that development work in the area will be completed by spring.

The new settlers also include families of the founders of the Sharon and Samaria moshavim.

The HATZOFE correspondent adds that people from the Jewish Agency Settlement Department are also continuing to establish a new settlement bloc at the foot of the Hebron hills, which will also include people from the second generation of the religious moshav movement in the Jerusalem corridor and the Lakhish District.

The first moshav in this bloc is Nehusha, whose first settlers established themselves there a few weeks ago and are now preparing for the second stage in populating it.

WEST BANK AREA VILLAGE LEAGUES CHANGE NAME

TA251225 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 25 Oct 82

[Text] The area village leagues in Judaea and Samaria have decided to change their name to the Movement of Palestinian Leagues. Our correspondent Pinhas 'Inbari was told that the village leagues seek to represent not only the villagers, but other sectors of the territories too.

ALGERIASTROUGAL VISIT ENDS; PRESS COMMUNIQUE ISSUED

LD221516 Algiers APS in English 1029 GMT 21 Oct 82

[Text] Algiers, 21/10/82 (APS) -- At the end of the three day official visit in Algeria paid by the Czechoslovak head of government, Mr Lubomir Strougal and his delegation, a press communique was released stressing that during talks, both parties proceeded to the examination of cooperation relations between the two countries and an exchange of views on international questions.

Regarding bilateral relations the two delegations examined their recent development and pointed out with satisfaction the high level they have reached and agreed to define new possibilities and prospects in order to ensure them a continuous and harmonious development in all fields.

In this connection, they reaffirmed the important part of the Algero-Czechoslovak joint commission for the promotion and the reactivation of the economic, scientific and technical cooperation between the two countries and agreed upon measures of the (reinforcement) of the cooperation registered on the proceedings of the 6th session of the commission aiming at giving a new impulse to bilateral cooperation.

Having examined the international situation, the two parties expressed their deep concern before the seriousness of the international tension, the systematic resort to the policy of force and the relaunching of the arms race. The two parties also agreed to intensify efforts to the establishment of a real and international peace and security, the advent of new international economic order, a complete and general disarmament, the setting up of democratic relations in international relations as well as the (?indefatigable) support to national liberation movements in their just struggle for the accession to national sovereignty and independence.

The Czechoslovak President of Government Lubomir Strougal invited the Algerian prime minister, Mr Mohamed Ben Ahmed Abdelghani to visit the Socialist Republic of Czechoslovakia.

FOREIGN MINISTER RETURNS FROM U.S. MEETINGS

LD241716 Algiers APS in English 1509 GMT 24 Oct 82

[Text] Algiers, 24/10/82 (APS) -- Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, Politburo member, foreign affairs minister flew in yesterday afternoon after having taken part in Washington in meetings of the Fes Arab summit, with the U.S. President, Mr Ronald Reagan and the secretary of state, Mr Shultz.

These meetings were an opportunity for the members committee to present to the U.S. responsables the eight points of the Fes summit declaration dealing with the Arab peace plan.

Apart from these activities, Dr Taleb Ibrahimi had bilateral contacts with the participating delegations.

LIBYAAL-QADHDHAFI, DELEGATION LEAVE FOR PRC, DPRK

Stopover in Sofia

LD231814 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1708 GMT 23 Oct 82

[Text] Sofia, 23 Oct (JANA) -- The brother leader and an accompanying delegation stopped over in the Bulgarian capital this afternoon en route to the People's Republic of China, where he will pay an official visit lasting several days. He then will pay a working visit to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

A big welcoming reception was staged at Sofia airport for the brother leader. Welcoming him were: the prime minister, member of the Bulgarian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo [as received], members of the Politburo, ministers of the Bulgarian Government, high-ranking army officials, and the Arab community which received the leader with chants of appreciation and welcome.

The brother leader left the Jamahiriya at noon today on a working visit to the People's Republic of China and to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in response to official invitations from the heads of both countries.

The brother leader is accompanied by a delegation including Brothers Brig Gen Mustafa al-Kharrubi, chief of the staff of the armed forces, 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi, secretary of the General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison, Musa Abu Furaywah, secretary of the General People's Committee for Economy and Light Industries, Abu Zayd 'Umar Durdah, secretary of the General People's Committee for Agrarian Reform and Land Reclamation, Al-Bukhari Salim Hudah, secretary of the General People's Committee for Communications and Maritime Transport, and a number of experts and technicians from various committees and public institutions.

Stopover in USSR

LD241820 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1750 GMT 24 Oct 82

[Excerpt] Moscow, 24 Oct (JANA) -- The leader of the revolution tomorrow will start an official and friendly visit to the People's Republic of China, which will last a few days.

This afternoon the leader and his accompanying delegation stopped over in Irkutsk, southern Siberia, in the USSR on his way to Beijing.

The leader was met by the secretary of the Central Committee of the regional communist party, the first deputy of the regional head of government and the secretary and members of the Libyan Arab People's Bureau in the Soviet Union.

JANA CRITICIZES HASSAN DELEGATION, REAGAN POLICY

LD241946 Tripoli JANA in English 1645 GMT 24 Oct 82

[Text] Washington, Muharram 7, Oct 24, Jamahiriya News Agency -- in a dogfight-like atmosphere to surrender and acquire the defeatist spirit under the slogans of peace and just solution, King Hassan and the Fes delegation presented Reagan with a crystal dove.

The White House then said that this gift is a reward for Reagan's efforts to realise what he calls peace in the Middle East. The reality for Arab and international public opinion is that Reagan, through his policies and actions, is adopting a hostile policy towards the Arab nation and is implementing programmes of conspiracy and terrorism against it as he stands by the Zionist enemy and supervises in person the implementation of sabotage plans in Asia and Africa.

Furthermore, he is working towards realizing a new terrorist strategy based on the invasion of independent progressive countries in the Caribbean sea.

If America's Arabs have given this gift to terrorist Reagan, it only shows their adulation towards a person who can only be attracted by criminal and terrorist plans and by a consolidation of strategic alliance with the Zionist enemy.

MOROCCO

SECRETARY LEAVES FOR UN COMMISSION SESSION

LD231506 Rabat MAP in English 1242 GMT 23 Oct 82

[Excerpt] Casablanca, Oct 23 (MAP) -- Moroccan Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs Abdelhaq Tazi left Casablanca on Saturday heading for New York. Mr Tazi will attend the works of the United Nations fourth commission.

Shortly before departure, Mr Tazi declared that the enemies of Morocco's territorial integrity seize the opportunity of the holding of this commission to explain their fallacious thesis. A thesis which is losing the support of the international community, he said.

"We shall defend Morocco's viewpoint in the context of African and international legality," he said adding that Morocco defends its rights and its territorial integrity.

SUDAN

AT-TAYYIB RETURNS FROM IRAQ 21 OCTOBER

JN221045 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1015 GMT 22 Oct 82

[Excerpts] Khartoum, 22 Oct (SUNA) -- First Vice President Maj Gen 'Umar Muhammad at-Tayyib and his delegation returned here last night at the end of a 5-day official visit to Iraq, during which At-Tayyib conveyed a message from President Numayri to Iraqi President Saddam Husayn and held talks with Iraqi officials.

In a statement upon his arrival here, the first vice president said his visit to Iraq was successful and viewpoints were identical on all topics discussed with the Iraqi brothers. He added that civilian construction and the defense of Iraq go side by side. He confirmed the success of the visit by indicating the protocols and agreements concluded between the Sudanese and Iraqi sides.

NUMAYRI ON INTERGRATION CHARTER, REGIONAL ISSUES

JN241936 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1750 GMT 24 Oct 82

[Text] Khartoum, 24 Oct (SUNA) -- President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri this afternoon held a news conference with his accompanying information delegation onboard the plane en route to Khartoum following a 1-day visit to Egypt.

In the news conference, President Numayri said the integration charter between Sudan and Egypt is flexible and permits a reasonable amount of freedom of action for the benefit of the integration process between the two countries. He said increasing the membership of the higher integration council from four to five does not represent a violation of the Charter. President Numayri said there is a hotline between him and President Mubarak for consultations on issues of mutual interest at any time.

Questioned on the results of his talks with President Mubarak, President Numayri said the talks specified the size and names of the membership of the higher integration council, the integration fund, the general secretariat and the secretary general. President Numayri said that, in his capacity as president of Sudan, he has been authorized to appoint a secretary general from Sudan.

President Numayri said the two sides agreed on the bylaws of the higher integration council and the way in which it will be managed and convened. He said it was agreed that the two presidents alternately will chair the council. He said it has not been decided who will chair the current session, adding that that was not a point of dispute.

President Numayri said the economic aspects of the integration have been thoroughly discussed. He said it was agreed to establish an integration fund with a large capital that will suit the capabilities of Sudan and Egypt; the fund will have assets in both Sudan and Egypt in order to attract foreign aid.

In his news conference, President Numayri noted that his talks with President Mubarak did not deal with the issue of holding an African summit conference. However, he said Sudan and Egypt would welcome such a summit provided it is not held in Tripoli and that the headquarters of the OAU would be preferred. Regarding the Iraq-Iran war, President Numayri said the two countries' declared positions remain unaltered.

Commenting on Chadian President Hissein Habre's recent statements that he did not rule out a new Libyan military intervention in his country, President Numayri said Libya is the aggressor now against Chad because Libyan forces currently are occupying the Chadian region of Aozou. President Numayri said it is possible to interpret President Habre's statement by explaining that Libya currently is supporting Chadian opposition factions. He said this is a different kind of Libyan interference or a renewal of an old one. He said African nations must realize now that Libya has proven that it is not suitable to lead the OAU.

President Numayri said he believes the Arab group at the United Nations has failed in its efforts to expel Israel from the international organization. He said Sudan supports Arab unanimity and solidarity. He said the United Nations is not an implementation or military tool to force any country to implement its resolutions. He said, therefore, Israel's presence at the United Nations provides us with the opportunity of defeating it politically and isolating it from world public opinion.

President Numayri announced in his news conference that his recent talks with Guinean President Ahmed Sekou Toure focused on the OAU crisis, stressing that their views are congruent in this regard because they are members of the Sahara committee.

He added that they agreed that the interference of the OAU administrative secretary and the admittance of the Polisario to OAU membership is a grave mistake, adding that the administrative secretary should be brought to account for betraying Africa. He said the Sahara committee was commissioned by the Nairobi conference to hold a referendum and compile a comprehensive report to the OAU. He said some countries, foremost among which are Libya and Algeria, have conspired against and obstructed the committee's work.

President Numayri said Sudan seriously is considering sending troops to Iraq, adding that these troops, comprising ground combat forces such as artillery, armor, infantry and signal corps units, have begun training courses separately and collectively on guerrilla warfare. President Numayri expressed the conviction that this force can change the course of war operations.

Questioned on the feasibility of U.S. pressure on Israel, President Numayri said U.S. pressure possibly can influence Israel if the United States is serious. He added that the United States is Israel's best friend and that Israel can be considered part of the United States. He said U.S. pressure has on many occasions influenced Israel, because, had it not been for the United States, Israel would have liquidated the Palestinians.

President Numayri said his visit to the Sinai was meant to demonstrate the distinguishing historical character of the Sinai, reflecting the cultures and civilizations of Egypt and acting as a link between Asia and Africa. He said that one of the features showing the greatness of the Sinai is that its desert, which swallowed thousands of soldiers and war materiel, has been regained through negotiations. He added that the Arabs must negotiate to regain their land diplomatically, restoring security and peace to the region and bringing about the establishment of a Palestinian state.

President Numayri asserted that Egypt's achievement in regaining the Sinai is a tremendous accomplishment in the service of the Egyptian and Arab man and of the issue of peace and security in the region. He added that regaining the Sinai has revived the masses' high spirits.

President Numayri said his visit to the Sinai is of great significance to the Sudanese because they have vast areas of barren land similar to the Sinai. These, the president added, could be reclaimed and become useful by a little support from the citizens, the state and other institutions.

ITALIAN DEFENSE MINISTER VISITS 22 OCTOBER

LD222034 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 22 Oct 82

[Text] Field Marshal Ja'far Muhammad Numayri, minister of defense and commander in chief of the people's armed forces, this afternoon received at his office at the general command Italian Defense Minister Lelio Lagorio and his delegation. The meeting discussed the Middle East and the Horn of Africa. Views on matters of mutual interest also were exchanged and the views expressed were similar. The talks also covered aspects of cooperation between Sudan and Italy in military and other fields.

The meeting also was attended by his excellency the Italian ambassador in Khartoum and the heads of departments of the people's armed forces.

The Italian delegation arrived in this afternoon and was received on arrival by Gen (Yusuf Ahmad Yusuf), head of the administration; Gen (Tawfiq Salih Abu Kadok), chief of operations; and senior officers of the people's armed forces.

The Italian defense minister and his delegation left the country late this afternoon.

TUNISIA

NONALIGNED GROUP ARRIVES FOR TALKS WITH 'ARAFAT

LD231914 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 23 Oct 82

[Text] Indian Foreign Minister Narasimma Rao arrived in Tunis this afternoon. He said he came directly from New Delhi as part of the nonaligned committee that will meet with Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat to [words indistinct] pertaining to the Palestinian issue.

The Indian foreign minister expressed the hope that these talks will lead to new moves to find a settlement to the Palestinian problem.

Following the arrival of the Indian foreign minister, a number of other members of the nonaligned ministerial committee arrived in Tunis from Cyprus aboard a special Cyprus Airways plane.

The delegation includes the Cuban foreign minister, the Yugoslav foreign minister, the Nicaraguan foreign Minister and two ambassadors at the Sri Lanka and Guyanese Foreign Ministries.

At Cathage International Airport, the Cuban minister of foreign relations told TAP that the nonaligned ministerial committee during the meeting in Nicosia was charged with the task of increasing support for the Palestinian cause. He said: "We will do everything in our power to obtain the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanon through negotiation. The committee was unable to meet PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat in Beirut because of the Israeli invasion. It will, therefore, meet with him in Tunis to hold talks on the current situation. In light of these talks, it will decide on new steps to be taken regarding the Palestinian issue.

Mzali Receives Ministers

LD240218 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 23 Oct 82

[Text] Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali this afternoon received at the government palace in Al-Qasabah, Cuban Minister for Foreign Relations Isodoro Malmierca.

After the meeting, the Cuban minister said he was greatly honored to meet Mohamed Mazli and that he had conveyed Cuban President Fidel Castro's greetings to President Bourguiba and Mohamed Mzali. He said the meeting was an opportunity to exchange views on means of developing bilateral relations and on the activities of the Nonaligned Movement.

The Cuban minister described his talks with the prime minister as very positive and productive. He said he would meet with PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat in the evening to discuss the latest developments in the Middle East situation, especially the situation in Lebanon and the Palestinian problem. He ended his statement by expressing his pleasure for the amiable and warm reception received in Tunis.

Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali also received at the government palace in Al-Qasabah, Yugoslav Federal Secretary for Foreign Affairs Lazar Mojsov, who stated after the meeting that he was delighted to meet the prime minister. Both sides discussed means of bolstering the long-standing bilateral relations. He noted that these links, established through the many historic meetings between Presidents Bourguiba and Tito, are a solid foundation for [words indistinct] of friendship and defense of the nonaligned. The head of Yugoslav diplomacy added that the committee would meet PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat to express directly to him the solidarity of the nonaligned countries with the Palestinian cause. He went on to say that this committee was invited to prepare an action plan that would provide moral, political and diplomatic support to the PLO and its chairman and also to lay down [word indistinct] which would be submitted to the seventh summit of nonaligned countries, which will be held in New Delhi next (?March).

Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali also received at the government palace in Al-Qasabah, Indian Minister of External Affairs Narasimha Rao.

The three ministers arrived in Tunis as members of the nonaligned foreign ministers committee, which is charged with the task of contacting PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat to discuss new developments in the Palestinian issue and to prepare a working paper, which will be submitted to the forthcoming nonaligned summit scheduled to be held in India next (?March).

Israeli Withdrawal Urged

OW250148 Hong Kong AFP in English 0128 GMT 25 Oct 82

[Text] Tunis, Oct. 25 (AFP) -- The non-aligned countries' committee to investigate events in Lebanon announced here Sunday night it will ask Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil to allow the committee to go to Lebanon.

The committee said it will send him a letter asking him to let the committee carry out its mission and "lighten the suffering of the Palestinians."

A committee statement said the group wants to see what "exactions were committed" by the Lebanese Army in its recent search of Palestinian refugee camps in Beirut.

The committee, which conferred here Saturday with Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat, represents Cuba, India, Sri Lanka, Benin, Senegal, Guyana, Nicaragua, Yugoslavia and Cyprus.

The group also appealed to the countries of the world to take "swift, decisive" action to stop Israeli "acts of genocide" against the the Palestinian people.

The statement called for an "unconditional and immediate" Israeli withdrawal from all occupied Arab territories including Jerusalem.

PRESIDENT BOURGUIBA RECEIVES CSSR'S STROUGAL

LD211236 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 21 Oct 82

[Text] President Habib Bourguiba has received Czechoslovak Premier Lubomir Strougal and the delegation accompanying him on his official visit to Tunisia.

The meeting was attended by Prime Minister Mohammad Mzali; National Economy Minister Abdelaziz Lasram; Culture Minister Bechir Ben Slama; Secretary of State at the Office of the Minister of Foreign Affairs Mahmud Mestiri; and Ambassadors of the two countries Nouredine Mejdoub and Andrej Petricel.

During the meeting, the supreme combatant decorated the Czechoslovak premier with the Order of the Republic, First Class.

SEYCHELLESSECURITY FORCES REPORTEDLY DISCOVER COUP PLOT

LD222020 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1935 GMT 22 Oct 82

["Pool" item; spelling of name in parentheses as received]

[Text] Victoria, October 22 (PL) -- The commissioner (James Pillai) revealed Thursday that the security forces discovered a plot aimed at overthrowing the Seychelles Government, and arrested the conspirators.

The plot was organised by the so-called Seychelles Resistance Movement which was implicated in the attempt of overthrowing the president France Albert Rene, last November when Pretoria regime mercenaries entered the country.

The group is known for its terrorist actions like placing bombs in public places and sabotaging economic projects.

In a confrontation with the security forces two conspirators were killed, Mike Asher from South Africa, and Simon Denousse from the Seychelles, who recently returned from Pretoria.

Rene Warns Enemies

AB230835 Paris AFP in English 0813 GMT 23 Oct 82

[Text] Victoria, Oct 23 (AFP) -- Seychelles President France Albert Rene has warned his enemies that anyone trying to overthrow his government was heading for death.

Mr Rene, who himself came to power in a coup in 1977, told officials of his Seychelles People's Progressive Front that the authorities knew every move his opponents made.

"The system of democracy our enemies want is a system where a small minority crush the majority under their feet. If they want that type of democracy they will have to seek it elsewhere," he said.

The president was speaking last night at a meeting between members of the party central committee and local leaders. His remarks came in the week that two men died in a car explosion which police here have linked with plans for sabotage acts.

A coup plot last November failed after airport officials spotted a group of white mercenaries passing through immigration, and this year the government had to crush an army mutiny.

Paper Reports Failed Plot

MB240845 Johannesburg SUNDAY EXPRESS in English 24 Oct 82 p 3

[By David Balfour]

[Text] Mike Asher, the young South African killed in an explosion in the Seychelles this week, flew to the islands last Saturday to prepare the way for another major mercenary coup attempt.

The SUNDAY EXPRESS has learned that Mr Asher, a former permanent force member of the crack Reconnaissance Commando and an officer in the elite Parachute Battalion, was part of an advance party paving the way for a 70-man mercenary force which would have tried to topple the government of President Albert Rene.

The explosion, which ripped through a car parked at a secluded Mahe beach about 85 km from Victoria about midnight on Tuesday, killed Mr Asher and a young member of a Seychelles resistance movement, Mr Simon Denousse. According to Seychelles police sources Mr Denousse flew there from South Africa about three weeks ago.

Weapons, unexploded hand grenades and propaganda leaflets were found among the remains of the car.

It is believed the explosion caused a setback in plans for the coup attempt, which would have followed less than a year after Col Mike Hoare's aborted attempt to topple the Rene government.

This week the SUNDAY EXPRESS was told Mr Asher had been engaged in training members of the Seychelles 'Mouvement Pour la Resistance' (MPR) in terror tactics, bomb manufacture and weapon use.

He had drawn up a programme of training and was in possession of a 20-page feasibility study on the possibility of staging a coup in Victoria, the capital of the islands paradise.

This study recommended one of two possible plans, code-named "Plan A" and "Plan B".

Mr Asher was a close friend and confidant of Seychellois exiles in South Africa, including two men who reportedly played a prominent role in planning last November's coup attempt, Mr Gonzague D'offay and Mr Gerard Hoarau.

Neither of these men could be contacted after this week's explosion.

It was also learned that Mr Asher's activities had come under the scrutiny of the National Intelligence Service (NIS), which had warned him to "get out of it", through an intermediary.

Several friends of Mr Asher had also warned him he was playing with fire and had no chance of succeeding. But former colleagues -- Mr Asher had also worked as a manager for the Durban municipal security force -- described him as a "misguided idealist who sincerely viewed the Seychelles Government as a serious communist threat to the security of South Africa".

A close friend said he would have taken on the operation out of "political idealism rather than for the money".

However, it was reliably learned that Mr Asher frequently made large cash deposits into his banking account, even though he did not earn much in his last job as a representative for an import-export concern. These deposits were for round-figure amounts of R3 000 or R4 000 a time. It is believed Mr Asher was receiving money from the Seychelles underground movement in return for training, technical advice and assistance in plotting another coup attempt. He considered himself something of an explosives expert -- a misconception that may have cost him his life this week.

Earlier this year, while he was still employed in the Durban security force, his eardrum was burst and his legs were burnt when a device he was handling during an explosives demonstration detonated.

Included in the coup proposals in Mr Asher's possession were plans for members of the Seychellois underground organisation to plant bombs at various points around Victoria to cause panic and create an impression to the outside world of political instability and dissent in the islands. This would have been the prelude to a full-scale landing by a mercenary invasion force.

Mr Asher travelled to Victoria last Saturday, taking his girlfriend Yvonne Palmer with him. Tuesday night's bomb blast was intended as the start of the planned action, but everything would have been delayed or called off as a result of it going awry.

Yesterday Seychelles Government sources said nothing new had been discovered since the explosion but that investigations were continuing.

SUNDAY EXPRESS London correspondent Bruce Stephenson reports that President Rene, 49, said the incident was the least in a series intended to destabilise his socialist government.

Asked to define precisely who was organising attempts to bring about his downfall, the Seychellois leader said: "They are mainly the dissidents who make up the Mouvement Pour la Resistance (MPR) based in London and Durban and who are supported by certain other individuals and governments.

"It's impossible to escape the conclusion that many of these activities have been organised from South Africa."

President Rene recently reached an informal agreement with French President Francois Mitterrand to modernise, re-equip and train Seychellois air, land and sea units and to provide help against any external attacker.

SOMALIA

PRESIDENT RECEIVES PRC MINISTER 24 OCTOBER

EA242322 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1400 GMT 24 Oct 82

[Excerpt] The president of the Somali Democratic Republic, Challe Mohamed Siad Barre, and his delegation this morning received Mr Qian Zhengying, the PRC minister of water resources and electric power, at the presidential residence in Kismayu. The Somali president and the minister had a cordial conversation in an atmosphere of complete understanding on strengthening the friendly relations and cooperation between the Somali Democratic Republic and the PRC.

CLANDESTINE RADIO REPORTS RECENT CLASHES

EA222056 (Clandestine) Voice of Western Somali and Abo Liberation Fronts in Somali to Western Somalia 0930 GMT 22 Oct 82

[Text] A report reaching us from the battlefields says that Somali Abo freedom fighters were engaged in fierce fighting with the black Abyssinian colonialist forces at Arba in Manso District of Bale region on 14 October. The surprise attack left 25 Abyssinian soldiers killed and many more wounded. The gallant fighters of the Somali Abo captured 15 rifles type [words indistinct]. The front suffered seven martyrs killed, and there were some other casualties.

In another engagement in Manso District, Bale region, on 12 October, the heroic freedom fighters killed eight Abyssinian enemy soldiers and captured two AK rifles. Many enemy soldiers were wounded. The forces of the Somali Abo freedom fighters returned safely to their base.

On 7 October, the gallant fighters of Somali Abo launched a surprise attack on the forces of the directionless regime of Mengistu stationed at (Jabbe) village in (Banju) District. The report says that in the engagement the black Abyssinian colonialist forces lost five soldiers killed and many others wounded. The reports add that the heroic Somali Abo liberation fighters returned safely to their base.

Another report reaching us from the Somali Abo liberation fighters says that on 14 October fierce fighting took place between the gallant forces of the Somali Abo and the demoralized soldiers of the black Abyssinian regime at (Banju), in Haroreis district. The black Abyssinian colonialist forces lost the officer commanding the unit and three of the soldiers under his command. The reports add that many more soldiers were wounded.

The rest of the forces loyal to the terror regime of Addis Ababa fled in all directions. The gallant freedom fighters of the Somali Abo returned safely to the bases from which they had launched the attack.

TANZANIA

ANGOLAN DELEGATE TO CONGRESS SUPPORTS NAMIBIA

AB250705 Paris AFP in French 1618 GMT 24 Oct 82

[Text] Dar es Sallam, 24 Oct (AFP) -- Yesterday in Dar es Salaam, Alfonso van Dunem, Angola's representative to the national congress of the Chama Cha Mapidunzi (CCM -- the ruling party in Tanzania), reaffirmed his country's support for the liberation struggle in Namibia.

The Angolan delegate, who is attending the 1-week CCM national congress that began Wednesday, also said that South Africa's repeated attacks against Angola would not prevent it from pursuing the struggle in Namibia.

He indicated that his country was committed to the struggle for the liberation of southern Africa despite the campaigns launched by the Pretoria regime to destabilize the "frontline" states, (Botswana, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Angola, Mozambique and Tanzania).

SAHARAN LEADER ARRIVES, MAKES STATEMENT

EA232014 Dar es Salaam in English to East Central and Southern Africa 0400 GMT 23 Oct 82

[Text] Dar es Salaam -- The president of the SDAR republic, Ndugu 'Abdelaziz, who is also chairman of the Polisario front, is in Dar es Salaam for talks with President Nyerere. The talks are expected to center on the issue of the admission of the Western Sahara to the Organization of African Unity, OAU, which was responsible for the failure to hold the 19th summit of the OAU in Tripoli, Libya, last August.

On arrival at the airport yesterday, he was met by the Tanzanian minister for foreign affairs, Ndugu Salim Ahmad Salim, and senior government and party officials. Ndugu 'Abdelaziz praised Tanzania's position on Western Sahara when speaking to newsmen at the Dar es Salaam International Airport, adding that the country's policy was in compliance with the struggling peoples of Africa. The Polisario president condemned King Hassan of Morocco for his invasion of the SDAR and emphasized that his country was now free and a full member of the OAU. He stressed that King Hassan, who is helped by the United States, would be defeated.

NYERERE CALLS FOR OAU SUMMIT, SDAR ADMISSION

EA232032 Dar es Salaam in English to East Africa 1000 GMT 23 Oct 82

[Excerpt] Dar es Salaam -- President Nyerere today said that the OAU summit meeting must be reconvened in the best interests of the African Continent. Mwalimu, speaking as chairman of the ongoing party national conference in Dar es Salaam this morning, said those countries which had failed to recognize the SDAR should do so now since Polisario has been fighting for the honor of Africa. He said since Africa is one, the struggle by Polisario for the total liberation of Western Sahara is a struggle for the consolidation of the independence of those countries which unfortunately have refused to recognize the legitimacy of its struggle. The party chairman said if Africa fails to reconvene the 19th OAU summit, it will be a tragedy to the continent. Mwalimu Nyerere was speaking before and after President Muhammad Abdelaziz of the SDAR had delivered fraternal salutations to the party national conference.

In his message, Ndugu Abdelaziz, who is also secretary general of Polisario, warned that Africa was now being threatened by a conspiracy of imperialist forces which are using South Africa in the south and Morocco in the north to destabilize the gains of African peoples. He said in this unholy alliance of imperialism and their lackeys the United States is giving direct military aid to Morocco as well as helping the Pretoria regime to supply military aid to King Hasan. Morocco has been claiming Western Sahara to frustrate the revolutionary gains of Polisario which now controls 90 percent of the territory, a former colony of Spain.

Ndugu Abdelaziz, who came yesterday after holding his party's national congress in Algiers, said Polisario has resolved to carry on the struggle on both the military and diplomatic fronts until final victory. He said the (?fifth) Polisario party congress has resolved to fight to regain their land as honorable people or die as martyrs of Africa.

Ndugu Abdelaziz earlier held talks with Mwalimu Nyerere on the progress of efforts of the committee of six charged with the task of working for the reconvening of the summit.

CHADHABRE ACCUSES LIBYA OF PREPARING NEW AGGRESSION

LD222002 Kuwait KUNA in English 1724 GMT 22 Oct 82

[Text] Paris Oct 22 (KUNA) -- Chad President Hissein Habre has accused Libya of preparing for a new aggression against Chad. In an interview with French television Friday, Habre said Libyan troops still occupied 150,000 square kilometres of Chadian territory, supported by opposition groups and recruited mercenaries.

Contrary to what is believed abroad, Libya has not stopped interfering in the internal affairs of Chad, the president declared adding that the Libyans still held military bases in the country and that they were reinforcing their presence in the region everyday.

30-MEMBER NATIONAL CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL NAMED

AB221315 Paris AFP in French 1235 GMT 22 Oct 82

[Text] Ndjamen, 22 Oct (AFP) -- Here is the composition of the Chadian "National Consultative Council," announced yesterday in Ndjamen by President Hissein Habre. This council comprises 30 members: 2 representatives of each of the 14 prefectures and 2 representatives of the city of Ndjamen.

Batha	Bourma Abdissi and Habib Taha
Biltine	Ahmed Senoussi and Bacha Abdoulaye
Borkou-Ennedi-Tibesti	Issa Hamid and Ali Youssouf
Chari-Baguirmi	Mahamat Bakhit Hassane and Abakar Moumine
Guera	Khamis Ali Mamoundo and Idriss Naim
Kanem	Moumine Togo Hamini and Ali Kedalye
Lac	Oumar Kadjallah Boukaf and Bisso Mamadou
Logone Occidental	Djekoundade and Koilo Aoubor
Logone Oriental	Mbaïasbe Dingaodikim Abdou and Antoine Nadjita
Mayo-Kebbi	Alidou Baba Iya and Dobekreo Chimie
Moyen-Chari	Doungous Kimto and Ballet Ganga
Ouaddai	Oumar Chaib and Abdoulaye Affadine
Salamat	Hassan Abakar Outmane and Abdelkeri Hassane
Tandjile	Selguet Hassane and Issac Doussie
Ndjamen	Saleh Tossibang and Laonane Mahadi

ENVOY IN BELGIUM RESIGNS OVER HABRE POLICIES

AB221355 Paris AFP in English 1313 GMT 22 Oct 82

[Text] Brussels, 22 Oct (AFP) -- The charge d'affaires at Chad's Embassy here today announced his resignation in protest at the "shameful" policies of new Chadian President Hissein Habre.

Brussels-based Issaka Ramat Alhamdou had represented Chad in Belgium, Netherlands, Luxembourg, Britain and the European Economic Community since 1978.

Mr Alhamdou said that Mr Habre, who was installed yesterday as president after toppling the previous government last June, "denigrates the Chadian people and ridicules their honor."

Mr Alhamdou added that the new president, who announced his government today, "has imposed himself on the people in order to rule as absolute master, without sharing power even with those who were his accomplices in gaining control of the country's southern towns."

GHANAZIMBABWE PRIME MINISTER ARRIVES FOR VISIT 23 OCT

PA231739 Paris AFP in English 1726 GMT 23 Oct 82

[Text] Accra, Oct 23 (AFP) -- Zimbabwean Prime Minister Robert Mugabe arrived here today from Lagos for a two-day official visit to Ghana.

Mr. Mugabe, accompanied by his wife Sally and four government ministers, was met at the airport by Ghanaian leader Flt. Lt. Jerry Rawlings and received a rousing welcome from hundreds of Ghanaians.

Answering questions from reporters concerning recent renegade guerrilla activity in his country, Mr. Mugabe said that tribalism was not a source of disunity in Zimbabwe.

He said that defeated groups, in particular former nationalist leader Joshua Nkomo's ZAPU Party, should acknowledge defeat and "usefully join hands with the party in power."

Reception Speeches

AB240837 Accra Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 24 Oct 82

[Text] The visiting prime minister of Zimbabwe, Mr Mugabe, is in Sekondi-Takoradi to continue his official visit to the country. Yesterday he had discussions at the castle, Osu, with the chairman of the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council], Flight Lieutenant Rawlings. No statement was issued on their talks.

Later, at a reception at the castle in honor of Mr Mugabe, Flight Lieutenant Rawlings said the recent victory of the people of Zimbabwe against racist domination and exploitation was one more major step in the struggle of Africans to reassert control over their own destiny. He stressed that the task of leading a young independent state like Zimbabwe poses immense challenges as a result of decades of the repression, deprivation and the denial of human rights to the people.

The PNDC chairman stated that despite 25 years of Ghana's independence it is still confronted with a systematic denial of the basic needs and aspirations of the broad masses and the subjection to conditions of abject poverty. Flight Lieutenant Rawlings remarked that Ghanaians have worked without adequate reward. Their sacrifices, he stressed, have mainly enriched the parasites and the corrupt elements in the society and their foreign masters. He cautioned the Zimbabwe leader not to repeat the mistakes Ghana has experienced after attaining its independence. He said the 31 December revolution is a culmination of the struggles of Ghanaians against injustice, indignity and exploitation. The revolution, he stressed, has come to restructure the institutions of the society and to make the people active participants in decisionmaking.

On the role of Ghana in African affairs, Flight Lieutenant Rawlings declared: Even in the midst of our difficulties we will remain faithful to the tradition of pan-Africanism to which our late first president, Nkrumah, contributed much. Ghana, he added, has therefore been following with concern the policy of destabilization which the racist regime in South Africa is carrying out against Zimbabwe, Angola and Mozambique. Flight Lieutenant Rawlings hoped the reconvening of the OAU summit in Tripoli would show the determination of African leaders to reassert the independence and unity of the continent.

Replying, Mr Mugabe said Zimbabweans will never forget the ideas the late President Nkrumah infused in the leaders of the liberation movements as a basic philosophy to the total liberation of the African Continent. Today, Mr Mugabe observed, everything Nkrumah did still remains valid. He said Zimbabwe is committed to the total liberation of southern Africa. Mr Mugabe stressed his government's commitment to equal rights and justice. This is why Zimbabwe has chosen the path of socialism so that the resources are placed at the disposal of the people. He called for unity among African states.

Delegation Holds Talks

AB240842 Accra Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 24 Oct 82

[Text] Ministers in Mr Mugabe's party have started discussions with their Ghanaian counterparts on areas of cooperation between their countries. Their decision was that Ghana and Zimbabwe are to cooperate in the fields of information and telecommunications. Speaking for the Ghanaian side, the secretary for information, Ato Austin, said Ghana will welcome any opportunity through which she and sister countries like Zimbabwe will share experiences. He said Ghana has followed with keen interest and admiration events that have taken place in Zimbabwe since that country's independence and the two countries must seek ways and means of helping each other.

For the Zimbabweans, the minister of information, Dr Shamuyariara, said his country is interested in an exchange of information which is necessary to bring closer understanding between the peoples. He added that Zimbabwe will do everything possible to bring about closer ties with all African states.

During the talks, Ghana agreed to take on 20 technicians for training at the telecommunication school and 10 students at the Ghana Institute of Journalism. There was a consensus that in the future the news agencies of the two countries exchange personnel and open offices in each other's country. The Zimbabwe minister said his country would like to train some of its technicians in Ghana, because about 1,000 white technicians leave the country every month and they have to be replaced.

Remarks in Sekondi

AB241210 Accra Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 24 Oct 82

[Text] The prime minister of Zimbabwe, Mr Mugabe, has declared that Ghana will never be forgotten by the people of Africa because of the leadership position she occupies on the continent. He was speaking at a reception held in his honor by the western regional secretary, Dr Appiah, in Sekondi last night. Mr Mugabe recalled that it was in Ghana that he got his inspiration to mount the nationalist struggle for his country's independence. The Zimbabwean prime minister declared: I am a political child born in Ghana and committed to the political philosophy of the late President Nkrumah, to liberate and unite Africa and establish a true African personality on the continent. Both in heart and in mind, I am a Ghanaian.

Mr Mugabe said Zimbabwe is now beginning to walk as an independent state. His country is therefore going to learn all that she needs to learn from Ghana, in order to consolidate her independence.

Dr Appiah said the special relationship between Ghana and Zimbabwe is not by accident, but was ordained by God. He said Ghanaians and Zimbabweans are citizens of each other's country by affinity, and he hoped the two countries would remain united in the struggle to achieve total independence and unity in Africa.

Dr Appiah presented gifts of a stool, a wooden sword, kente [traditional cloth] stole, a carving of a fish and a crest of the Sekondi-Takoradi City Council carved in wood, to Mr and Mrs Mugabe on behalf of the chiefs and people of the region. Later at another ceremony, Mr Mugabe and his wife laid a wreath on the grave of their only child, Nanu Mugabe, who died at Sekondi after a short illness. Another wreath was laid by the CDS [chief of defense staff] and member of the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council] Brigadier Nunoo-Mensah.

Mr Mugabe is leaving Accra today after a 2-day visit to Ghana.

Seen Off By Rawlings

AB241340 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 24 Oct 82

[Text] The prime minister of Zimbabwe, Mr Mugabe, left Accra a short while ago after an official visit to Ghana. He was seen off by the chairman of the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council], Flight Lieutenant Rawlings, PNDC secretaries and members of the diplomatic corps.

Press Comments

AB250905 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 25 Oct 82

[From the press review]

[Excerpt] The just-ended visit to Ghana by the prime minister of Zimbabwe is the subject for comment by both the DAILY GRAPHIC and the GHANAIAN TIMES.

The GRAPHIC describes Mr Mugabe's 2-day visit as short but very significant for the revolutionary wind blowing in Africa. The paper recalls the statement Mr Mugabe made on his arrival that he had come back to the environment where his own political ideas and philosophy were shaped, and says the great significance of that statement lies in the fact that most people cannot still conceive that there is a permanent revolution in Ghana. The GRAPHIC says it is not surprised that Ghana was the place that deserved attention. It is the concrete manifestation of the revolutionary ideas that were given birth to by the late Osagyefo Dr Kwame Nkrumah as a signpost on which the liberation of the African Continent will be measured.

The paper says the second but equally significant thing about the Zimbabwe leader's visit is the recognition that the path chosen for progress and development by the two countries are similar. The GRAPHIC therefore calls on the leaders and peoples of Ghana and Zimbabwe to unite their efforts, hopes and aspirations for the African liberation has been sabotaged in the absence of strong bonds of unity.

For its part, the TIMES highlights the aims and objectives of the revolution as reiterated by the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council] chairman during Mr Mugabe's visit and the attempts being made by counterrevolutionary forces to distort the revolution to the outside world. The paper says Flight Lieutenant Rawlings has thus again put before the nation, Africa and the world the facts of the Ghanaian situation and the exciting people's emancipation course which the revolution is charting. He has also reaffirmed the inseparable link between the people's revolutionary path and the path of liberation of the African people. The TIMES therefore assures the Zimbabwe prime minister that Ghana's revolutionary leadership is together with the leaders of Zimbabwe and the progressive leaders of Africa in the struggle for the emancipation of the national masses toward final, irreversible victory for the African revolution and the united world revolutionary front.

NIGERIAZIMBABWE PRIME MINISTER MUGABE CONTINUES VISIT

Tours New Federal Capital

AB221533 Lagos NAN in English 1520 GMT 22 Oct 82

[Text] Abuja, Oct 22 (NAN) -- Prime Minister Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe arrived in Abuja today for a one-day official visit.

Mr. Mugabe, the first foreign head of state to visit the federal capital territory, was accompanied by the minister of external affairs, Prof. Ishaya Audu, and other top government officials.

He was met at the airport by the minister for the Federal Capital Development Authority (FCDA), Alhaji Iro Dan Musa, and other top officials of the authority.

The visiting head of state inspected a guard of honour mounted by men of the Second Mechanised Battalion of the Nigerian Army under the command of Maj. Agabus Yakabu, and later drove to the city in a convoy.

At the FCDA office complex, in the Accelerated Development Construction Project (ADCP) Alhaji Iro briefed the prime minister on the activities of the authority and the progress made so far.

Mr. Mugabe was also shown the projected model of the capital city and was later taken round on a site inspection of ADCP housing project.

Other places visited included the presidential complex and the government guest house.

Impressed with Nigeria's Role

AB221750 Lagos NAN in English 1730 GMT 22 Oct 82

[Text] Abuja, Oct 22 (NAN) -- The prime minister of Zimbabwe, Mr. Robert Mugabe, in Abuja today said that he was impressed with Nigeria's leadership role in Africa.

Mr. Mugabe said at the end of a one-day tour of the new capital today that African countries looked up to Nigeria as a power which they could rely upon.

He said that Abuja, situated at the center of Nigeria, would also be the centre of Africa because without Nigeria Africa is hollow.

Mr Mugabe noted that most capital cities in Africa were those planned by the colonial administrations and that with the development of Abuja, Nigeria would effectively decentralise its industries, commerce and population and avoid congestion.

The Zimbabwean prime minister said that when Zimbabwe would be planning either a new capital or a house of parliament, it would put into consideration what he saw in Abuja.

Shagari Speaks at Banquet

AB240637 Lagos NAN in English 1648 GMT 23 Oct 82

[Text] Lagos, 22 Oct (NAN) -- President Shehu Shagari yesterday in Lagos called on all African leaders to sink their differences and resolve the OAU problem in the spirit of give-and-take.

The president made the call at a state banquet in honor of the Zimbabwean prime minister, Robert Mugabe, who concluded a four-day official visit to Nigeria today.

President Shagari said that the OAU problem should be resolved so that the summit could reconvene, without further delay, in Tripoli or elsewhere in Africa.

He observed that the OAU crisis was caused by the admission of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic, adding that this was the greatest problem that had faced the organization since its birth. President Shagari said that the OAU was the only forum through which Africa had spoken to the world with one voice, pointing out that African leaders could not afford to let the organization die.

On Namibia, President Shagari said that the independence of that country must be unconditional. He said that there could not be any linkage between the 'so-called withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola and independence in Namibia.'

President Shagari assured Zimbabwe of Nigeria's cooperation and assistance in the task of "reconciliation and healing of old wounds."

Mugabe Speaks at Banquet

MB230818 Harare Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 23 Oct 82

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Mugabe, has called on the international community to take all possible measures to destroy South Africa's apartheid system and to establish a democratic order in that country. Speaking at a banquet given in his honor by the Nigerian president, Mr Shagari, in Lagos last night, Comrade Mugabe said he is confident that democracy will eventually prevail in South Africa. He told the guests that Namibia's independence should not be held to ransom because of the presence of Cuban troops in Angola.

The prime minister said Zimbabwe (?approved) the right of the people of the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic [SADR] to self-determination and that it supports its admission to the Organization of African Unity. Comrade Mugabe said the problems that have arisen over the admission of the SADR to the OAU cannot be solved through boycotts but through consultation.

Commenting on the Middle East, Comrade Mugabe said Zimbabwe fully supports the struggle of the Palestinian people under the PLO. He condemned Zionist Israel's recent invasion of Lebanon and the massacre of Palestinian refugees in West Beirut.

Comrade Mugabe called for economic cooperation among African countries, saying that without economic independence, political independence is meaningless and insecure. He said the creation of the Southern African Development Coordination Conference, SADCC, and the preferential aid treatment, PTA, would bring the prospects of economic liberation nearer.

Comrade Mugabe and his party will leave for Ghana today after signing a bilateral cooperation agreement with President Shagari.

Communique Signed

AB231309 Lagos International Service in English 1230 GMT 23 Oct 82

[Text] Nigeria and Zimbabwe today signed a trade agreement covering exchange of primary products especially in the agricultural and industrial sectors. The agreement followed talks in Lagos between President Shehu Shagari and the prime minister of Zimbabwe, Mr Robert Mugabe. A joint communique signed today shortly before the departure of the Zimbabwean leader said that the two countries also decided to conclude a number of other agreements at a future date. The agreements envisaged are for air services, administrative cooperation and judicial, police, customs, civil and military training matters as well as telecommunications. There will also be a protocol agreement on a joint Nigeria-Zimbabwe commission which is expected to enhance and strengthen cooperation in many stipulated fields.

On mutual cooperation, the communique stated that President Shehu Shagari and Mr Mugabe reaffirmed their commitment to work for the implementation of the Lagos plan of action. They agreed to intensify their efforts toward the realization of a new international economic order and called for a common approach among developing countries in the North-South dialogue.

On the situation in southern Africa, the two leaders commended SWAPO for intensifying the military and diplomatic struggle of Namibia. They, however, expressed dismay at attempts being made to link the process of decolonization in Namibia with matters which were purely the internal affairs of Angola. They demanded the immediate and unconditional cessation of aggressive acts against African frontline states as well as the withdrawal of racist troops from the Angolan soil.

Further Details

AB240630 Lagos NAN in English 1715 GMT 23 Oct 82

[Excerpts] Lagos, 23 Oct (NAN) -- Nigeria and Zimbabwe are to conclude agreements at a future date on air services and telecommunications, a communique issued in Lagos today at the end of the four-day official visit of Prime Minister Robert Mugabe to Nigeria said.

Both leaders expressed satisfaction with the level of cooperation between Zimbabwe and Nigeria, especially in political, social, cultural, economic, scientific and technological areas, and reaffirmed their determination to maintain regular contacts at all levels.

President Shagari and Prime Minister Mugabe reiterated their determination to strengthen the OAU and regretted that the organization was not able to hold the 19th session of the assembly of heads of state and government in Tripoli. They pledged to work hard in order to ensure that the properly constituted 19th OAU summit was held as soon as possible so as to enable the organization to function normally.

They stressed the importance of holding the 7th summit of the nonaligned countries as soon as possible in order to enable the movement to make its contribution in arresting the "rapidly deteriorating international situation."

Both leaders also noted with concern the present situation in the Middle East and concluded that the ultimate solution for a durable peace was in the restoration of the inalienable rights of the Palestinians.

OAU SUMMIT DEPENDS ON VOLUNTARY SDAR WITHDRAWAL

AB241000 Paris AFP in French 1611 GMT 23 Oct 82

[Text] Lagos, 23 Oct (AFP) -- The 19th OAU summit can only take place in Tripoli if the Saharans "voluntarily" withdraw, an authorized source in Lagos believes. No quorum could be attained for this summit if these conditions of nonparticipation were "imposed" on the Saharans, the same source adds.

The authorities in Lagos are however quite optimistic about the possibility of holding a summit in Tripoli. It is stressed in this regard that President Julius Nyerere is presently trying in Dar es Salaam to convince "the president of the SDAR," Mohamed Abdelaziz, to "withdraw voluntarily" and to abstain from participating in the summit.

Nigeria had already proposed the holding of the Tripoli summit in August without Saharan participation, but the presence of an SDAR delegation in the ministerial meetings -- which Nigeria did not want -- hampered the holding of the summit.

Many of those opposed to the admission of the SDAR into the pan-African organization prevented the attaining of a quorum, which was necessary for the validation of the summit.

ANGOLA15 RED CROSS WORKERS REPORTED KIDNAPPED

AB221713 Luanda ANGOP in French 1630 GMT 22 Oct 82

[Excerpt] Luanda, 22 Oct (ANGOP) -- A total of 15 Angolan employees of the International Committee of the Red Cross [ICRC] were kidnapped last weekend in the occupied part of Cunene Province following the disappearance of Lubango Diocese Archbishop Alexandre do Nascimento, religious sources in Lubango, capital of Angola's Huila Province, announced yesterday.

According to the same sources, in addition to the Archbishop of Lubango, six brothers of the Mongua religious mission were also reported missing along with a French woman and a West German woman.

In this connection, messengers from the southern region of Angola, occupied by the South African Army, have reported that last Friday a group of gunmen surrounded the Mongua mission, adding that the archbishop of the Diocese of Lubango and six religious sisters were taken to an unknown destination, along with the mission's jeep that Archbishop do Nascimento used for his pastoral tour of the region.

Later, the ICRC delegate in Lubango contacted the military command in Ngiva, (capital city of Angola's Cunene Province, occupied by South African troops), but the command refused to give details on the situation of those missing.

Meanwhile, it has been learned that the president of the ICRC said after a meeting with the South African Ambassador in Geneva that the ICRC would withdraw its Ngiva delegation if within a week's time the South African Republic does not provide it with information on the whereabouts of the Red Cross personnel kidnapped in the area which is currently under its domination.

It is worth noting that the 15 employees who were kidnapped had been working in the Xangongo, Chakati and Mongua Districts in the part of Angola occupied by racist South African forces since August 1981.

The news of the disappearance of Msgr Alexandre do Nascimento has caused strong indignation not only in the capital of Huila Province but also throughout Angola. Within ecclesiastical circles as in other sectors of Angolan life, there is concern for the prelate's lot and fear that he may be the victim of the murderous, warlike fury of the South Africans and their lackeys.

HUNGARIAN MINISTER ARRIVES IN LUANDA 19 OCT

AB201211 Luanda Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 20 Oct 82

[Text] The Hungarian minister of defense, Gen Lajos Czinege, is in Luanda since yesterday leading a military delegation of his country on a 7-day official working visit to the People's Republic of Angola.

Gen Lajos Czinege, who is in Luanda at the invitation of his Angolan counterpart, Pedro Maria Tonha Pedale, affirmed on his arrival that his visit was with the objective of strengthening the friendship and military ties existing between the two sides.

The Hungarian minister also congratulated the excellent friendship relations between the People's Republic of Angola and Hungary in all fields. He underlined that during his stay in the country the two sides will examine the possibilities of boosting their bilateral cooperation in the training of cadres, military preparations and other issues of common concern. The two sides will also study the preparations of specialists in the industry fields of the two countries.

Commenting on the current political and military situation of the African Continent, the Hungarian minister of defense expressed his country's desire for the liberation of all oppressed peoples in southern Africa and at the same time condemned racist South Africa's complicities and atrocities committed in the region. Gen Lajos Czinege called for the urgent solution of the Namibian independence question through diplomatic activities and the application of the UN resolution on the question.

Talks Begin

AB211756 Luanda ANGOP in French 1615 GMT 21 Oct 82

[Text] Luanda, 21 Oct (ANGOP) -- Talks began yesterday morning in Luanda between the delegation from the Angolan Ministry of Defense led by its head, Maria Tonha Pedale, and the delegation from the Hungarian Ministry of Defense led by its head, Lajos Czinege.

It is asserted that these talks, which will lead to the signing of an agreement, will be based on issues related to strengthening friendship and cooperation between the two countries. Meanwhile, before the talks began General Lajos Czinege paid tribute to the leader of the Angolan Revolution, Antonio Agostinho Neto, by laying a wreath on his sarcophagus.

Also yesterday morning, the leader and members of the Hungarian delegation were received by the provincial commissioner of Luanda, Evaristo Domingos Kimba. The provincial commissioner of Luanda informed his eminent visitor about the running of the Luanda provincial assembly of which he is the coordinator, and explained the municipal divisions that conduct political and administrative work in the 20 zones of Luanda.

In the afternoon, the Hungarian delegation, accompanied by the Angolan minister of defense and the commanding officer of the Angolan Navy, Lt Col Augusto Alfredo, visited the naval base of the People's Navy of Angola. During this visit, General Lajos was able to see various sectors of the base and the way it functions. The end of the visit was marked by the exchange of gifts between the two delegations.

In today's program, the two delegations are expected to resume talks this morning and then visit the premises of the school of communications, "Commandante Economica." In the afternoon, General Lajos and his delegation are expected to go to the Viana municipality in a suburb of Luanda, where they will visit the factory of the "Enacma" firm, specializing in the assembling of "Keve" cars.

Visits Army School

AB221814 Luanda ANGOP in French 1659 GMT 22 Oct 82

[Text] Luanda, 22 Oct (ANGOP) -- Official discussions between the delegations of the Ministries of Defense of Angola and Hungary headed by the ministers of defense of the two countries -- Pedro Maria Pedale Tonha and Lajos Czinege respectively -- continued in Luanda yesterday.

After the discussions, the two delegations visited the "Commandante Economia" communications school -- one of the military units of the Angolan Army Forces. While there, the Hungarian delegation, accompanied by the Angolan minister of defense, listened to explanations on the functioning of the school.

In a short speech, Gen Lajos Czinege outlined the history of the liberation struggle of the Hungarian people, who for 36 years now have achieved a number of successes in industrial and agricultural sectors. He added: "Our industry currently produces four times what it produced during the bourgeois period, and our agricultural sector also yields three times what it yielded during the same period."

At the end of his speech, the Hungarian defense minister presented to the officers, sergeants and soldiers of this school, through the Angolan minister of defense, the combat flag of the Hungarian Army, symbolizing the strengthening of the friendship between the two armies. In return, the students wished him a happy stay in Angola.

In the afternoon, the Hungarian Defense Ministry delegation visited the "Enacma" motor vehicle assembly plant at Viana, a suburb of Luanda. Also, continuing its official visit to Angola, the Hungarian delegation left today for Huila Province, where it will visit some military units and different tourist centers in Lubango.

After that, the Hungarian delegation will visit Namibia Province, where it is expected to visit the mining port of the province.

MAURITIUS

BERENGER STRENGTHENS POSITION DURING CRISIS

AB221410 Paris AFP in English 1353 GMT 22 Oct 82

[Text] Port Louis, Oct. 22 (AFP) -- The left-wing alliance which swept triumphantly to power in last June's general elections has managed to survive only four months.

Prime Minister Aneerood Jugnauth has announced that he is to form a new government as soon as possible, from which he will exclude his former campaign allies, the Mauritian Socialist Party (PSM).

The five PSM ministers in the first cabinet have already submitted their resignations to Governor-General Sir Dayen-Dranath Burrenchobay, without waiting for Mr Jugnauth to request their departure.

PSM leader Harish Boodhoo reacted to the premier's decision by calling for new general elections, but so far there is no indication that Mr Jugnauth intends to heed his call.

Mr Jugnauth's Mauritian Militant Movement (MMM), retaining its alliance with the small Rodrigan Peoples' Organisation (OPR) still has a two-thirds majority in the national assembly and has no need to seek a new mandate from the voters.

The collapse of the coalition government followed a week of crisis which was triggered by the resignation of Finance Minister Paul Berenger.

Mr Berenger, a former journalist who was studying in Paris during the social upheavals of May 1968, has become a key member of the Mauritian left. He stepped down from the government on Monday after a clash with another MMM minister, Kader Bhayat, who holds the trade and industry portfolio.

This incident hints at the serious differences which exist between Mr Berenger and a section of the cabinet over the Indian Ocean island's economic policy.

Mr Berenger holds that the economy was in a crisis condition when the left-wing alliance took power and is a strong supporter of a tight austerity programme. He believes that Mauritius has become a "colony" of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) because of its heavy borrowing, and consequently he drew up a financial programme which was a break with the alliance's election promises.

The outgoing minister represents the government's economic credibility in the eyes of foreign financiers, and particularly as far as the IMF and the World Bank are concerned, and he is likely to get his job back when a new government is announced on Monday.

In a country that is politically aware and which has complete press freedom, Mr Berenger used the crisis to strengthen his position.

Opposition leader Gaetan Duval, a former foreign minister, even suggested today that the events of the past week amounted to a palace revolution.

Mr Duval said that Mr Berenger had "reduced the prime minister to his most simple state, that is to say, to being a puppet. He is very cunning, and has managed to seize control of the government."

Returns as Finance Minister

AB250908 Paris AFP in English 0817 GMT 25 Oct 82

[Text] Port Louis, 25 Oct (AFP) -- Mauritian Finance Minister Paul Berenger, whose resignation last week triggered the collapse of the left-wing government, was back in his old job today, Prime Minister Aneerood Jugnauth's office announced.

Mr Berenger and Trade and Industry Minister Kader Bhayat -- who caused Mr Berenger to resign after a row over government policy -- are currently negotiating with a World Bank delegation which arrived here on Thursday.

Following Mr Berenger's resignation last Tuesday, Mr Jugnauth's Mauritian Militant Movement decided to oust the Mauritian Socialist Party (PSM) from the coalition government. The alliance was elected last June on a common platform.

MOZAMBIQUE

BRIEFS

MOZAMBIQUE-USSR FISHERIES COOPERATION -- In Maputo today, Mozambique and the USSR signed a cooperation protocol in the area of fisheries following talks between delegations from both countries. The protocol was signed by the state secretary for fisheries, (Terreiro de Almeida), and the deputy minister of fisheries of the USSR. [Text] [Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1300 GMT 22 Oct 82 EA]

SOUTH AFRICA

BOPHUTHATSWANA DEMOCRATIC PARTY WINS ELECTION

MB231004 Johannesburg International Service in English 0900 GMT 23 Oct 82

[Text] The ruling Democratic Party in Bophuthatswana has made a clean sweep in the general election, winning all 72 seats. The opposition (Seope Singwe) Party lost the only four seats it held before the election, which took place on Tuesday. The results were released in Mmabatho today.